

BUBBLEGUM CRISIS

GRAND
MAL



ADAM WARREN

The background of the cover features a series of vertical stripes in dark blue, medium blue, and light blue on the left side, transitioning into a dense halftone dot pattern of white dots on a dark blue background on the right side.

BUBBLEGUM CRISIS

TM

GRAND
MAL

series editors
JOHN WEEKS &
EDWARD MARTIN III

collection editor
LYNN ADAIR

collection design manager
BRIAN GOGOLIN

collection designer
SCOTT FUENTES

BUBBLEGUM CRISIS

GRAND
MAL

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ADAM WARREN

additional inks

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DAVE JOHNSON

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TOMOKO SAITO

with an introduction by

KENICHI SONODA



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BUBBLEGUM CRISIS™: GRAND MAL

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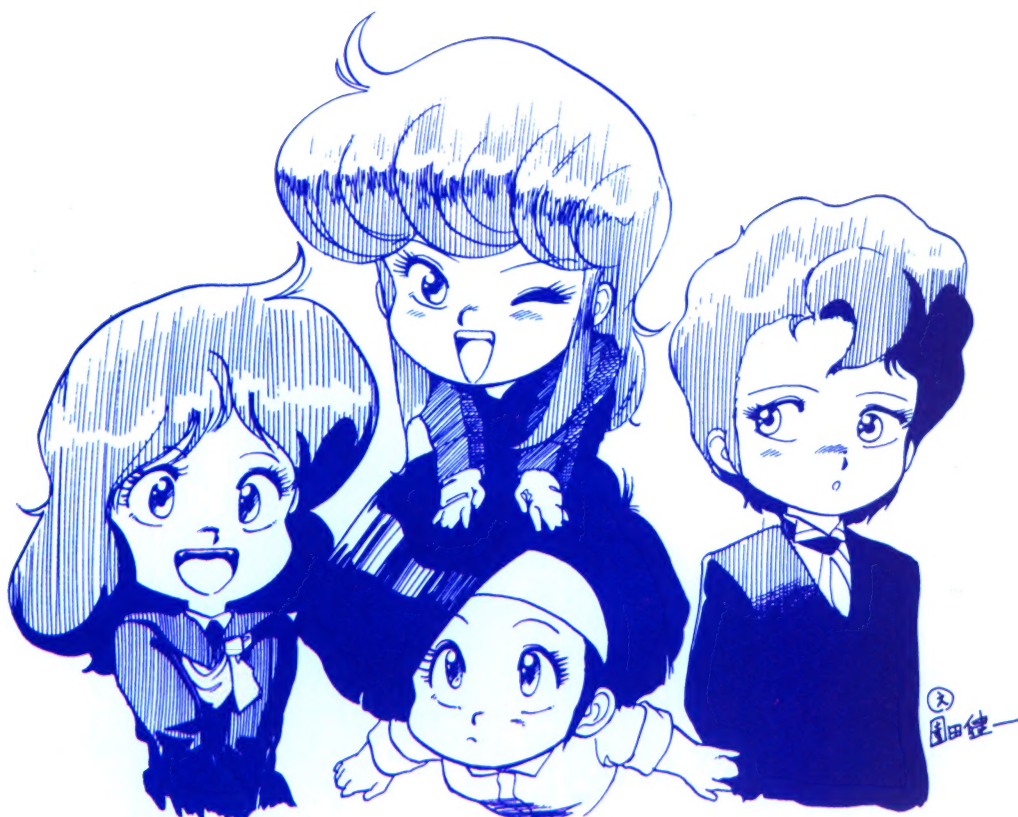


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1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

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Adam's slow and steady efforts at drawing otaku*-type manga have once again borne fruit!

Although **Bubblegum Crisis** is just a fond memory to me now, it gives me great pleasure to see the characters I designed make their appearance in America.

Good job, Adam!
Keep on drawing!
I'm behind you all the way!

*dedicated fan

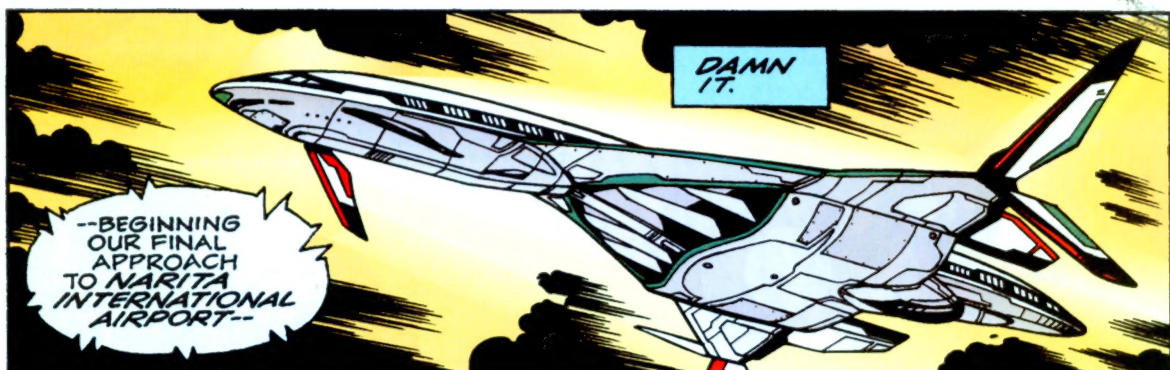
園田健一

—Kenichi Sonoda

(Who has been mired in the depths of Doom for three months now . . .)

CHAPTER ONE





DAMN
IT.

--BEGINNING
OUR FINAL
APPROACH
TO NARITA
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT--



THANK YOU
FOR FLYING
JAPAN AIR-
LINES--

ALMOST
MADE IT
THROUGH
THE FLIGHT.



--A
SUBSIDIARY
OF GENOM
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORA-
TION!

OCCUPIED

RES
R

SO MUCH
FOR MED-
ICATION.



FIRST, THE
SUDDEN
EUPHORIC
STATE
SWEEPS
OVER ME.

THAT'S THE
REALLY ANNOY-
ING PART, HAVING
TO FEEL HAPPY
ABOUT THIS...



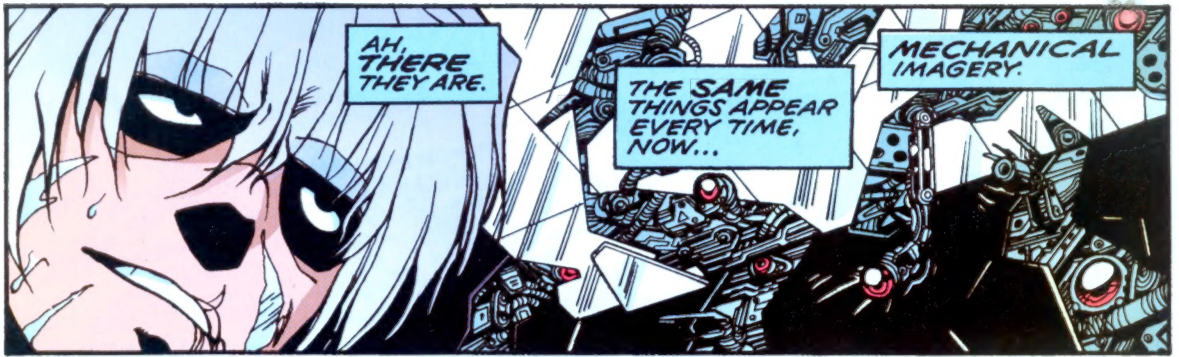
NEXT
COME THE
CHILLS--

--RIGHT ON
SCHEDULE.



ANY-
TIME
NOW--

--THE
HALLUCI-
NATIONS
SHOULD
KICK IN.



AH,
THERE
THEY ARE.

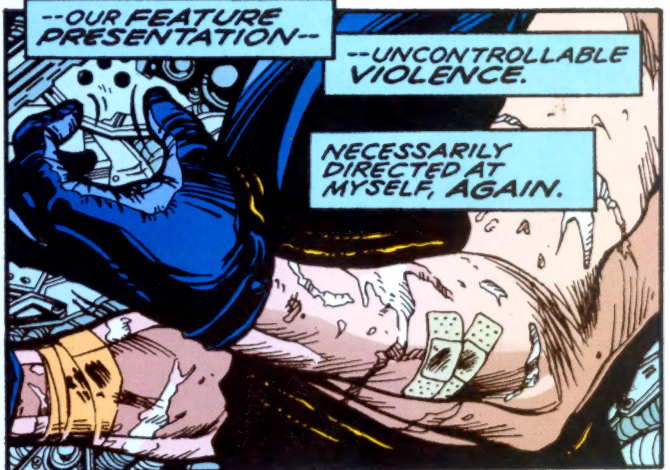
THE SAME
THINGS APPEAR
EVERY TIME,
NOW...

MECHANICAL
IMAGERY.



APPARENTLY MY RUINED
EXCUSE FOR A TEMPORAL
LOBE PREFERS ITS SYMBOLISM
ON THE OBVIOUS SIDE.

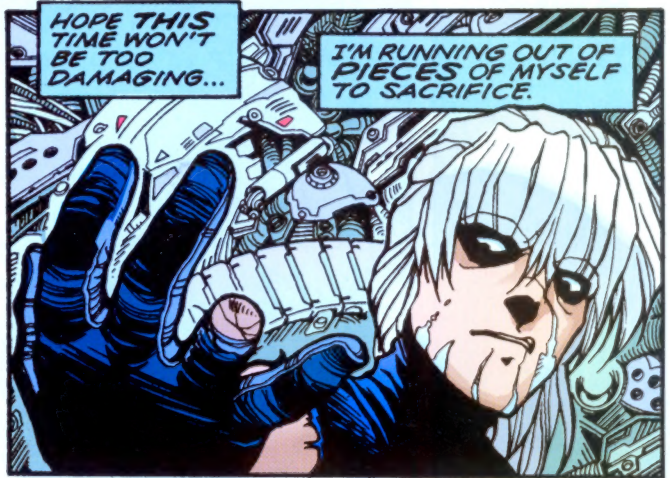
AND,
COMING
UP--



--OUR FEATURE
PRESENTATION--

--UNCONTROLLABLE
VIOLENCE.

NECESSARILY
DIRECTED AT
MYSELF, AGAIN.



HOPE THIS
TIME WON'T
BE TOO
DAMAGING...

I'M RUNNING OUT OF
PIECES OF MYSELF
TO SACRIFICE.



WELL, HERE
IT COMES.

WHAT
BETTER
WAY--

--TO CELEBRATE MY
TRIUMPHANT
RETURN TO
MEGATOKYO--?

A.D. 2031

AUDIO SAMPLES:

"MEGATOKYO!"

"A PROUD PHOENIX
RISING TRIUMPHANT
FROM THE ASHES OF THE
2025 GREAT KANTO
EARTHQUAKE--"

—GREATER TOKYO
BOARD OF TOURISM

"OH, WORLD'S LARGEST
COMPANY TOWN--"

"A CRIPPLED WHORE,
PROSTRATE AT THE FEET
OF MASTER GENOM--"

"YOUR STREETS CHOKED
WITH GENOM'S GAIJIN
AND GENOM'S BOOMERS--"
—SASANISHIKI AKIRA,
"STREET POET"

"BIG CITY"

—PRISS (retro-
thrash rock singer)

VIDEO
SAMPLE

--INITIAL 7.9
TREMBLOR ONLY
KILLED SAY, EIGHTY
OR NINETY THOUSAND
OUTRIGHT--

--BUT
THESE
FIRES--!!

WE'RE TALKING
SIX FIGURE
CASUALTIES, OR
EVEN SEVEN
FIGURE--

"TOKYO HOLOCAUST
IGNITES DOMESTIC AND
WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC
FIRESTORM--"

—UNIVERSAL MEDIA
NETWEB (BUSINESS)

"--GENOM CORPORATION
HAS EMERGED AS A MAJOR
PLAYER IN THE CHAOTIC
AFTERMATH--"

—BBC BUSINESS UPDATE



--LET GENOM BRING IN FOREIGNERS--

--OR EVEN THESE BOOMER THINGS--!

WE NEED HELP HERE--

VIDEO SAMPLE

"GENOM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SPEARHEADS RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT."--BEIJING BUSINESS JOURNAL

"AFTER PREYING ON THE REELING GIANTS OF CORPORATE JAPAN--"

"GENOM TARGETS PREY OVERSEAS."
--COMMERCE NEWS SERVICE

"WHO THE HELL IS GENOM?"
--U.S. PRESIDENT DEIRDRE SHAW



VIDEO SAMPLE

IN ORDER TO ACCELERATE OUR URBAN RECLAMATION PROJECTS--

--NOT TO MENTION THE COMPLETION OF OUR GENOM TOWER ARCOLOGY--

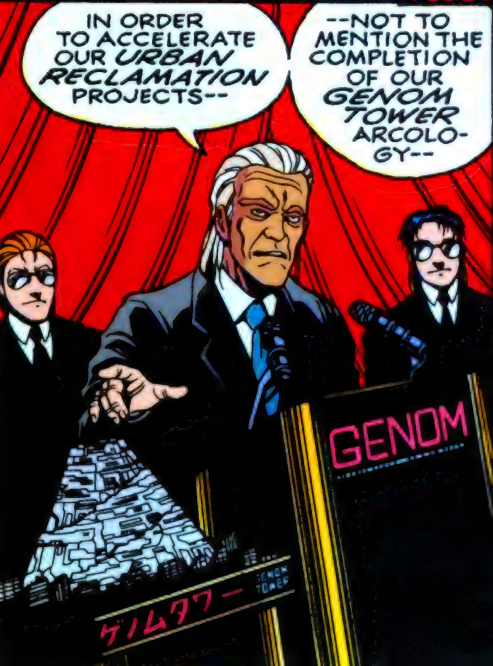
--WE'RE PLANNING LIMITED USAGE OF OUR BEST-KNOWN PRODUCT--

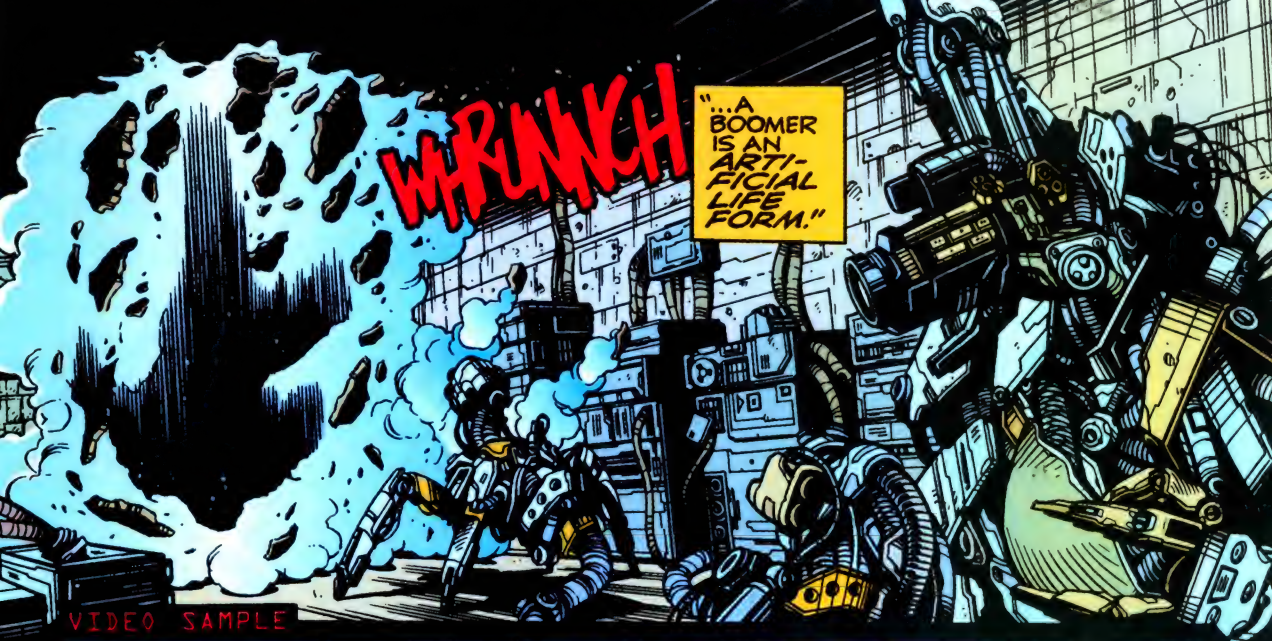
--THE BOOMER.

"WHAT'S A BOOMER, MOMMY?"



"WELL, HONEY..."





WRRUNKH

"...A BOOMER IS AN ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORM."

VIDEO SAMPLE

CONTROVERSIAL "BOOMERS" SEEN HERE HARD AT WORK ON ONE OF GENOM'S "URBAN RECLAMATION" SITES.

BIG FELLOWS, AREN'T THEY...

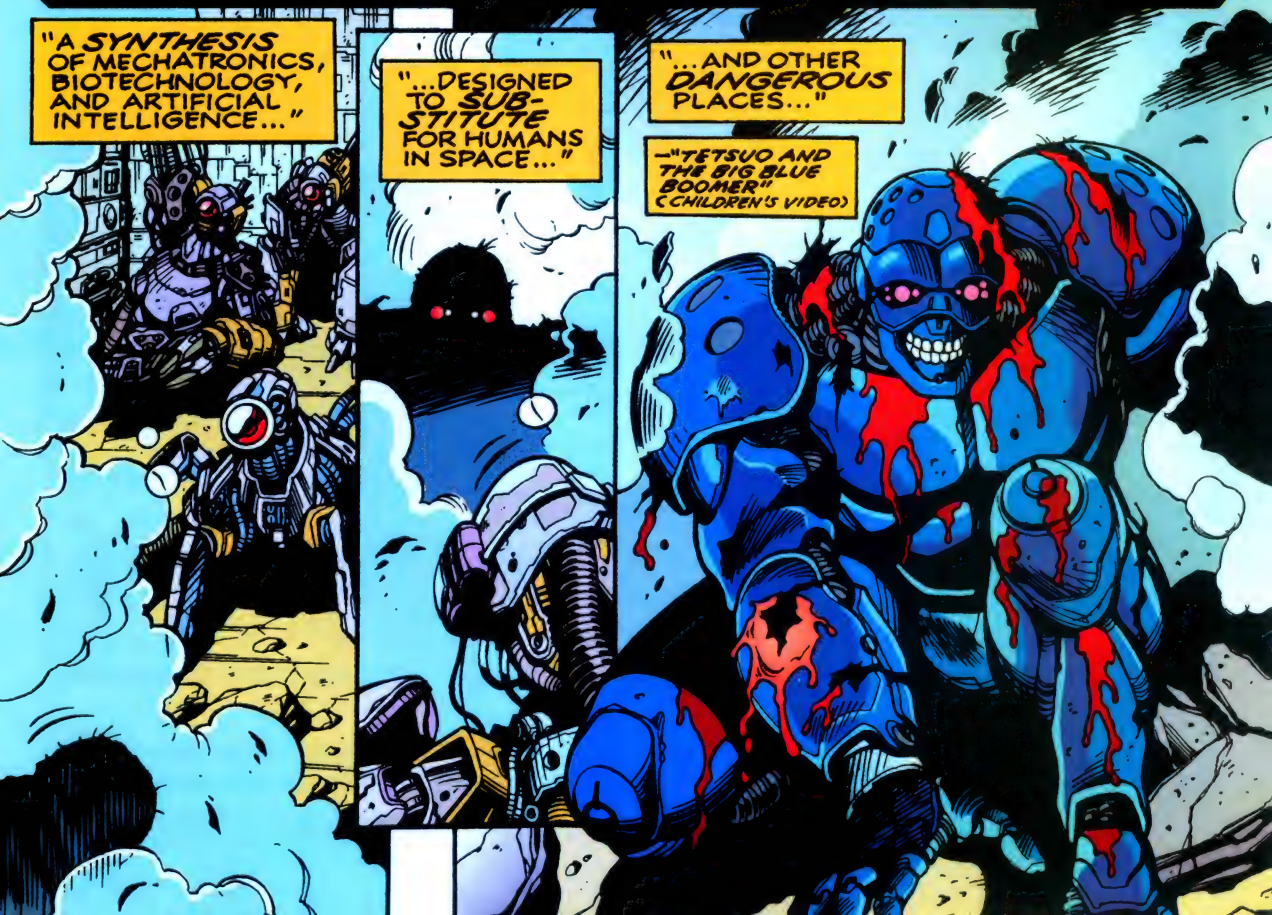
RECLAMATION
山ノ口と2
10007

"A SYNTHESIS OF MECHANOTRONICS, BIOTECHNOLOGY, AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE..."

"...DESIGNED TO SUBSTITUTE FOR HUMANS IN SPACE..."

"...AND OTHER DANGEROUS PLACES..."

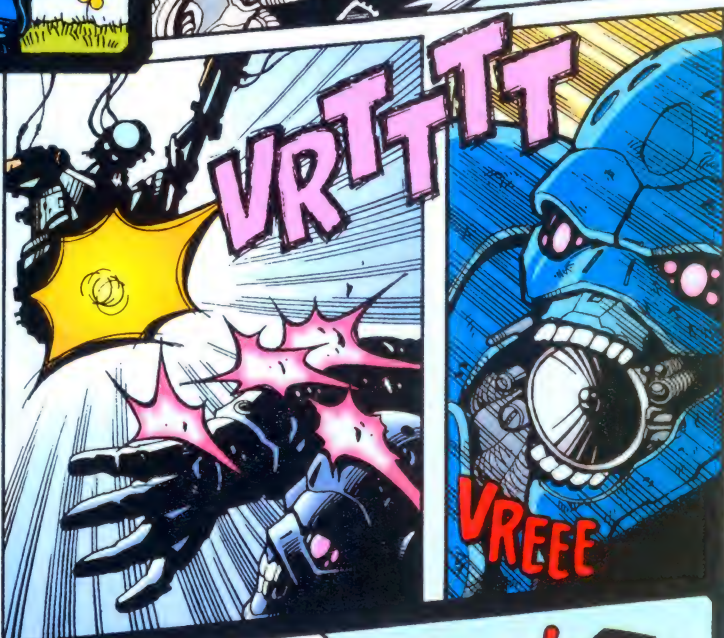
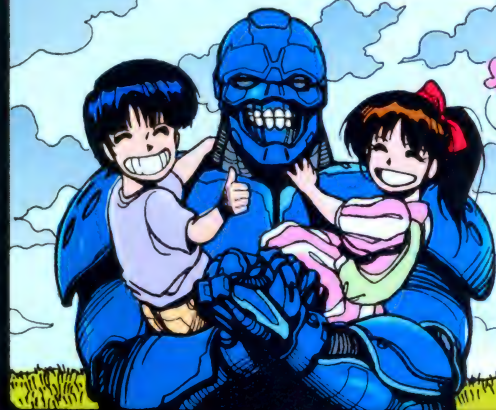
"...TETSUO AND THE BIG BLUE BOOMER" (CHILDREN'S VIDEO)



VIDEO SAMPLE

BOOMERS
AND YOU--

--A WINNING
COMBINATION
FOR A *SAFE*
FUTURE!

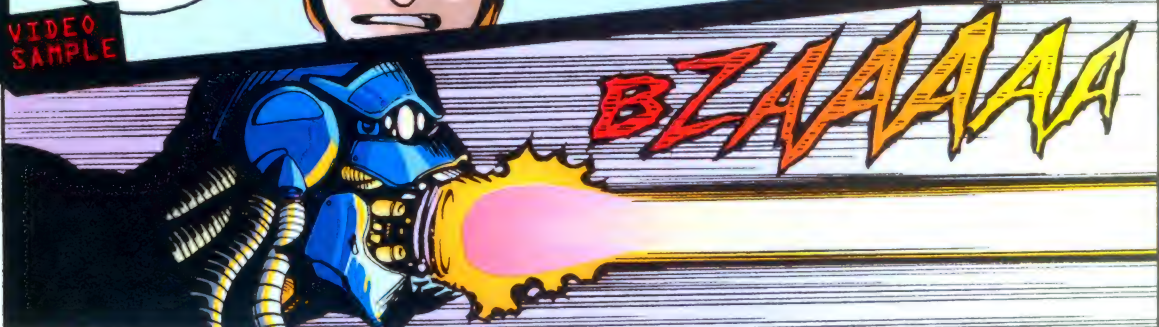


--TWELVE
DEAD, AND
AT LEAST
TWENTY-
FIVE
INJURED.

AT THIS TIME
WE CANNOT
CONFIRM RUMORS
OF POSSIBLE
BOOMER
INVOLVEMENT
IN THIS
HEINOUS
CRIME--

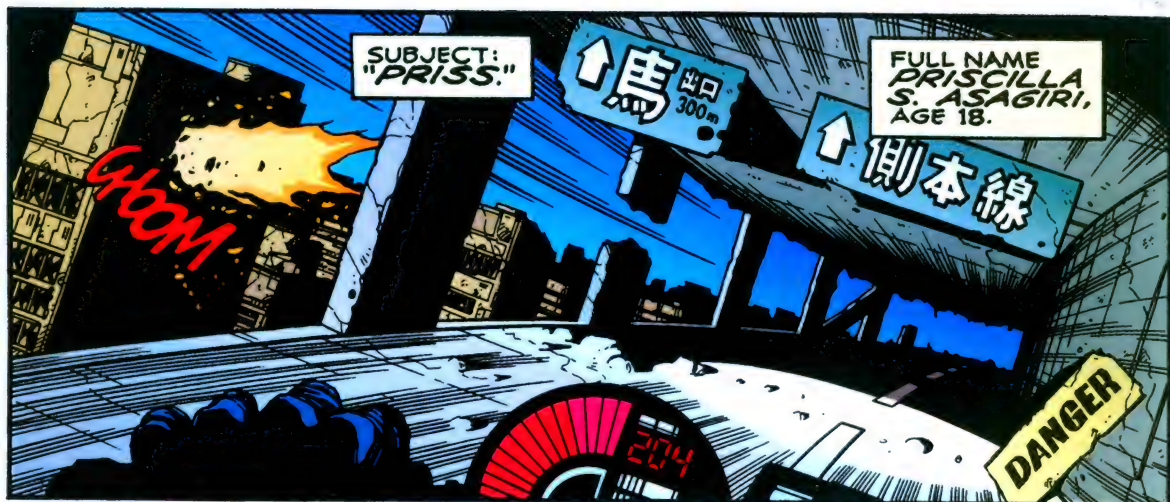
RAMDACE

VIDEO
SAMPLE



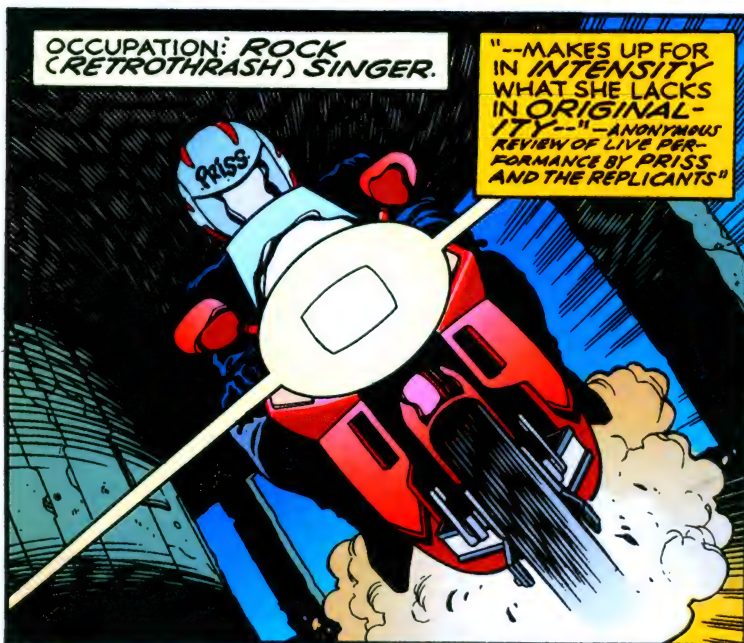
SUBJECT:
"PRISS."

FULL NAME
PRISCILLA
S. ASAGIRI,
AGE 18.



OCCUPATION: **ROCK
(RETROTHRASH) SINGER.**

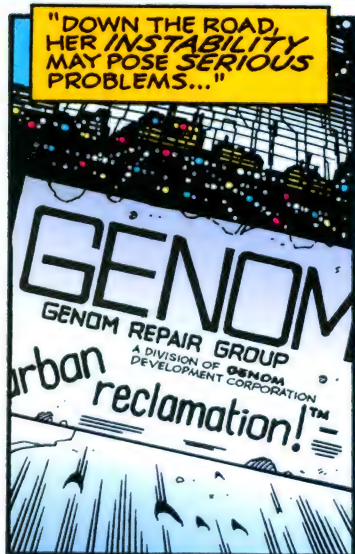
"--MAKES UP FOR
IN **INTENSITY**
WHAT SHE LACKS
IN **ORIGINAL-
ITY**--" --ANONYMOUS
REVIEW OF LIVE PER-
FORMANCE BY PRISS
AND THE REPLICANTS"



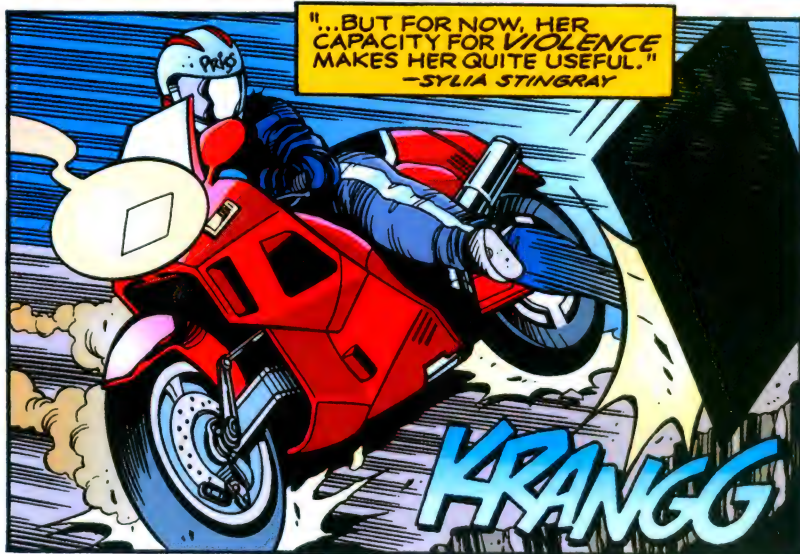
"ADMITTEDLY, PRISS IS
SOMEWHAT OF AN **UN-
GUIDED MISSILE.**"



"DOWN THE ROAD,
HER **INSTABILITY**
MAY POSE **SERIOUS**
PROBLEMS..."



"...BUT FOR NOW, HER
CAPACITY FOR **VIOLENCE**
MAKES HER QUITE USEFUL."
--SYLIA STINGRAY





"--WHAT, IF I DON'T
THINK **GENOM**
IS 'ALL-GOOD
AND DESERVING OF
ALL MY LOVE'--"

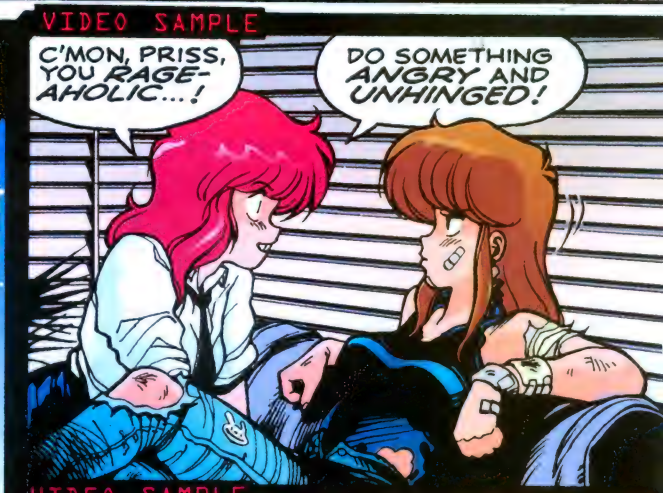
"--AND
SAY SO--"



"--THEN PEOPLE
SAY I'M 'TOO
POLITICAL'?"

"THEY
CAN JUST
GO TO
HELL--"

--PRISS,
IN INTERVIEW
WITH
WAZJEMAC
MUSIC 'ZINE



VIDEO SAMPLE

C'MON, PRISS,
YOU RAGE-
AHOLIC...!

DO SOMETHING
ANGRY AND
UNHINGED!



VIDEO SAMPLE

SHOW
US WHAT
A WILD
REBEL
YOU
ARE!

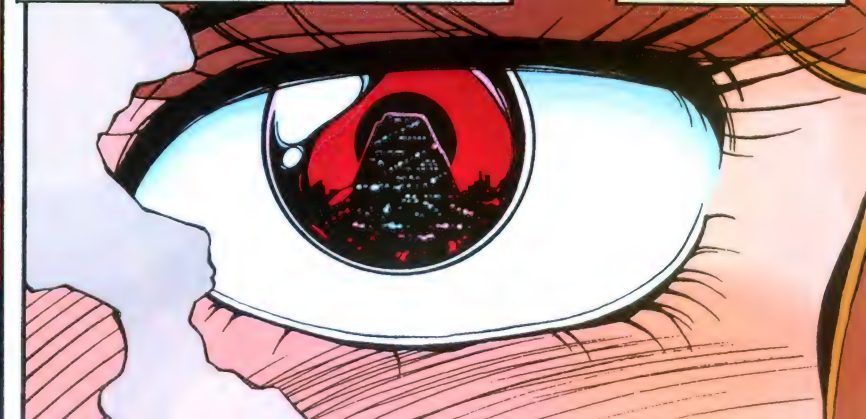
THAT'S
MORE
LIKE IT--



EXCERPT FROM COUNSELING
SESSION (MANDATED
BY PLEA BARGAIN ON
ASSAULT CHARGES):

THERAPIST: "THAT'S QUITE A LOAD
OF UNHEALTHY ANGER YOU'RE
CARRYING THERE, PRISS..."

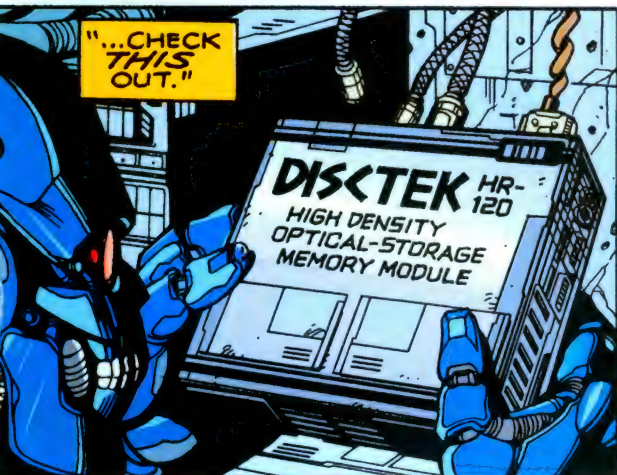
PRISS:
"BLEEP YOU."





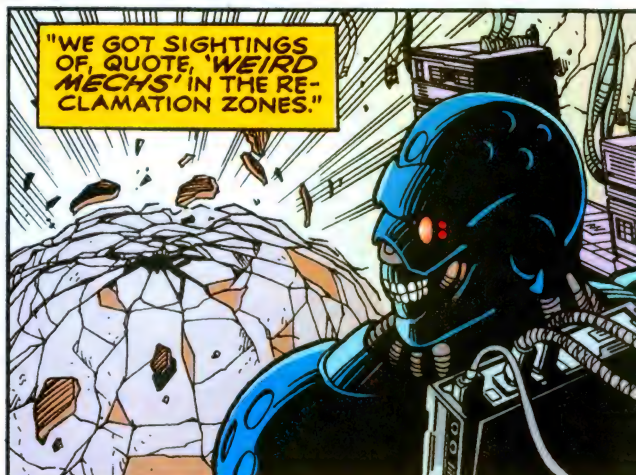
EXCERPT FROM CONVERSATION
RECORDED BETWEEN
AD POLICE OFFICERS:

"HEY
LEON..."



"...CHECK
THIS
OUT."

DISCTEK HR-120
HIGH DENSITY
OPTICAL-STORAGE
MEMORY MODULE

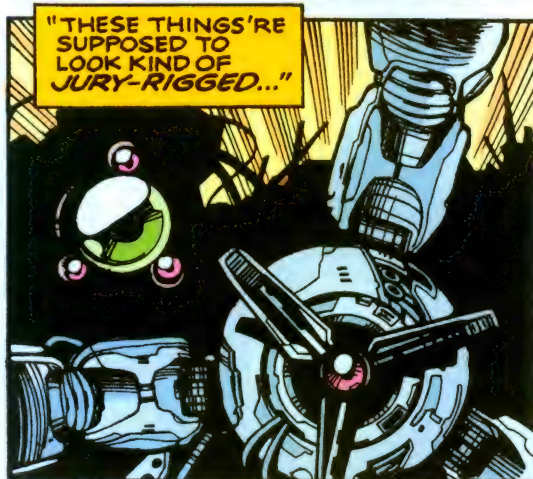


"WE GOT SIGHTINGS
OF, QUOTE, 'WEIRD
MECHS' IN THE RE-
CLAMATION ZONES."

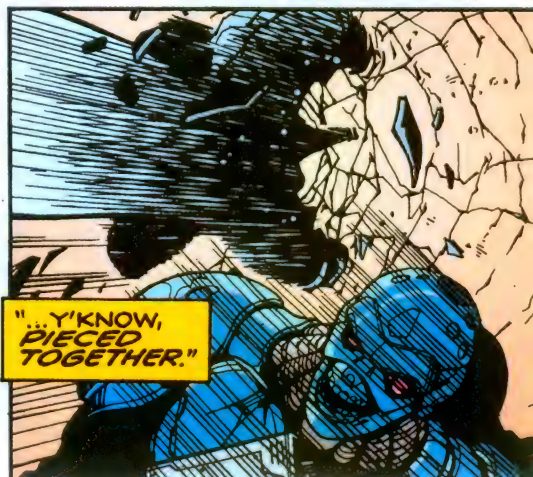


"WHAT, SOME NEW
TYPE OF BOOMER?"

"NAH,
DON'T
THINK
SO..."



"THESE THINGS'RE
SUPPOSED TO
LOOK KIND OF
JURY-RIGGED..."



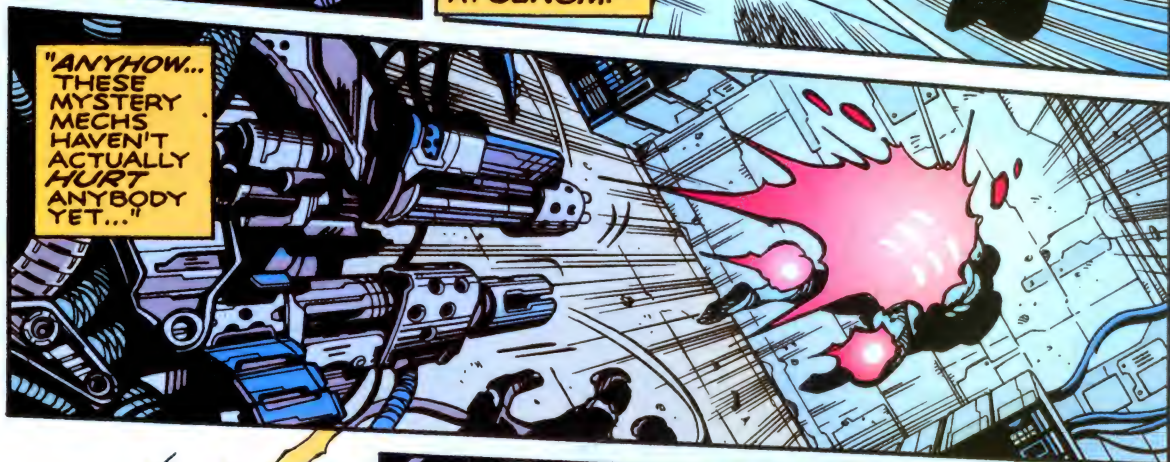
"...Y'KNOW,
PIECED
TOGETHER."



"WELL,
NOW..."



"...THAT
DOESN'T
SOUND LIKE
THE *FINE*
WORKMAN-
SHIP WE
EXPECT FROM
OUR FRIENDS
AT GENOM."

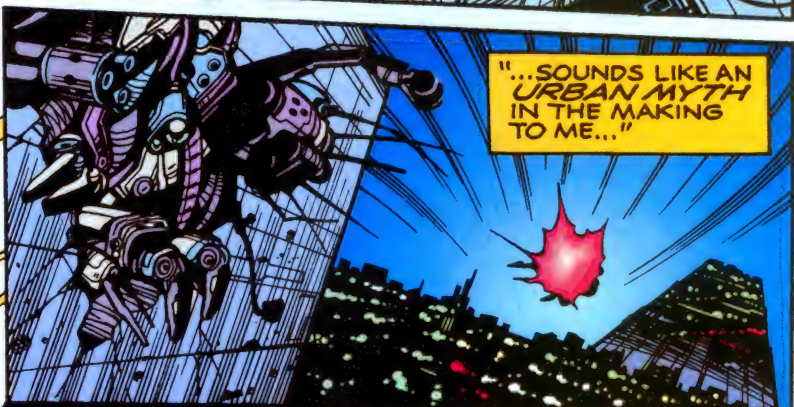


"ANYHOW...
THESE
MYSTERY
MECHS
HAVEN'T
ACTUALLY
HURT
ANYBODY
YET..."



"...THEY'RE JUST
SPOOKING
THE FAIR
CITIZENS A
LITTLE."

"HUH..."



"...SOUNDS LIKE AN
URBAN MYTH
IN THE MAKING
TO ME..."



VIDEO SAMPLE

AS YOU
CAN SEE,
GENERAL--*

--TODAY'S
*COMBAT
BOOMER*
WORKS
HARDER
FOR YOU--

*TRANSLATED FROM UKRAINIAN



SUBJECT:
SYLIA
STINGRAY,
AGE 21.



OFFICIAL RECORDS,
BIRTH TO AGE 15,
LOST IN 2025
EARTHQUAKE.

OCCUPATION
LISTED AS
"OWNER/OPERATOR,
'SILKY DOLL',
LINGERIE SHOP"
ON 2030 INCOME
TAX RETURN.

KONYA WA
HURRICANE



CONTROLS *SUBSTANTIAL*
FINANCIAL AND REAL
ESTATE HOLDINGS--

--NOT
DETAILED
ON 2030
INCOME TAX
RETURN.

MŌ ICHIDO
HURRICANE

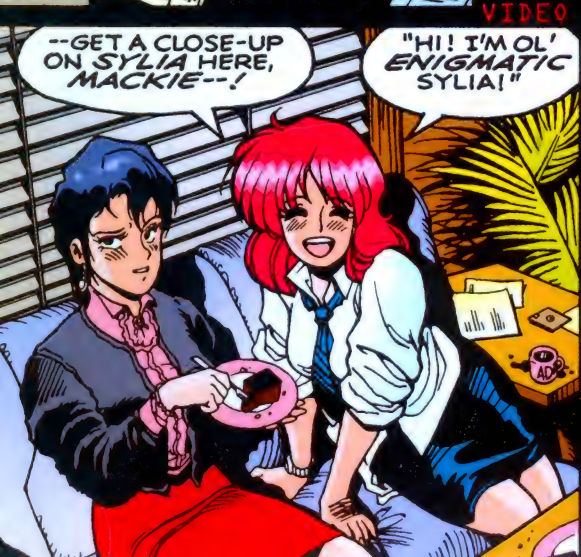
HEY,
SIS--



THESE
MOTOROID
SENSOR
SUITES
GOT MESS'D
UP IN TRAN-
SIT...!

IT'LL TAKE A
DAY OR TWO TO
RECALIBRATE
'EM...

FINE,
MACKIE.



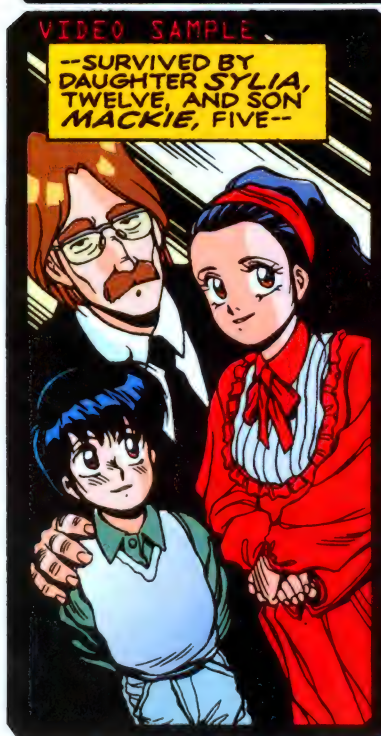
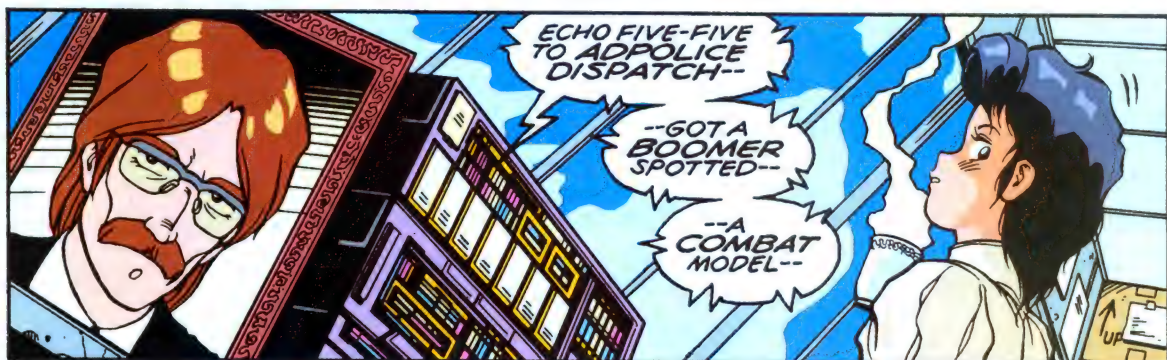
--GET A CLOSE-UP
ON SYLIA HERE,
MACKIE--!

"HI! I'M OL'
ENIGMATIC
SYLIA!"



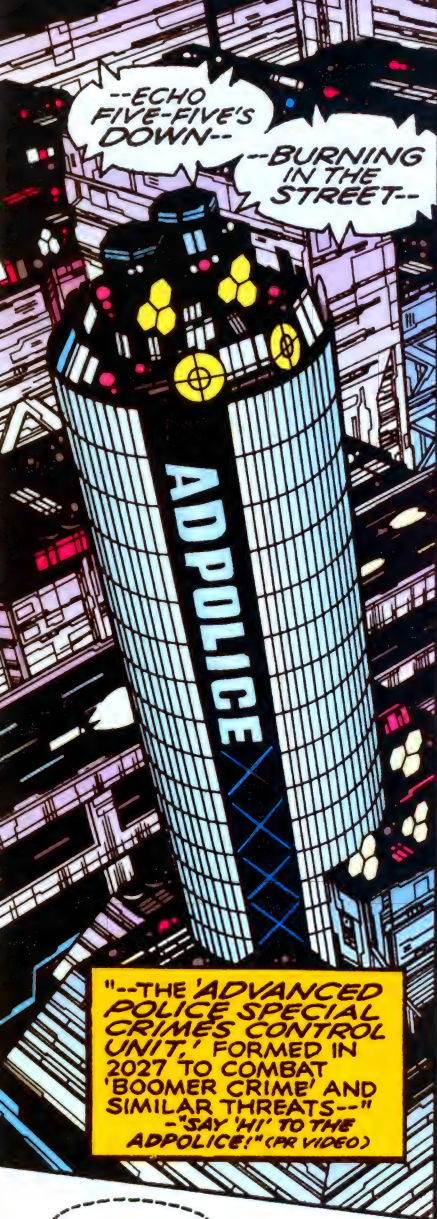
"WHY, I'M A MYSTERY
OF TWO CONUNDRUMS
OF A RIDDLE OF
ANOTHER MYSTERY--"

NENE
DEAR,
YOU'RE
GETTING
OUT OF
HAND--





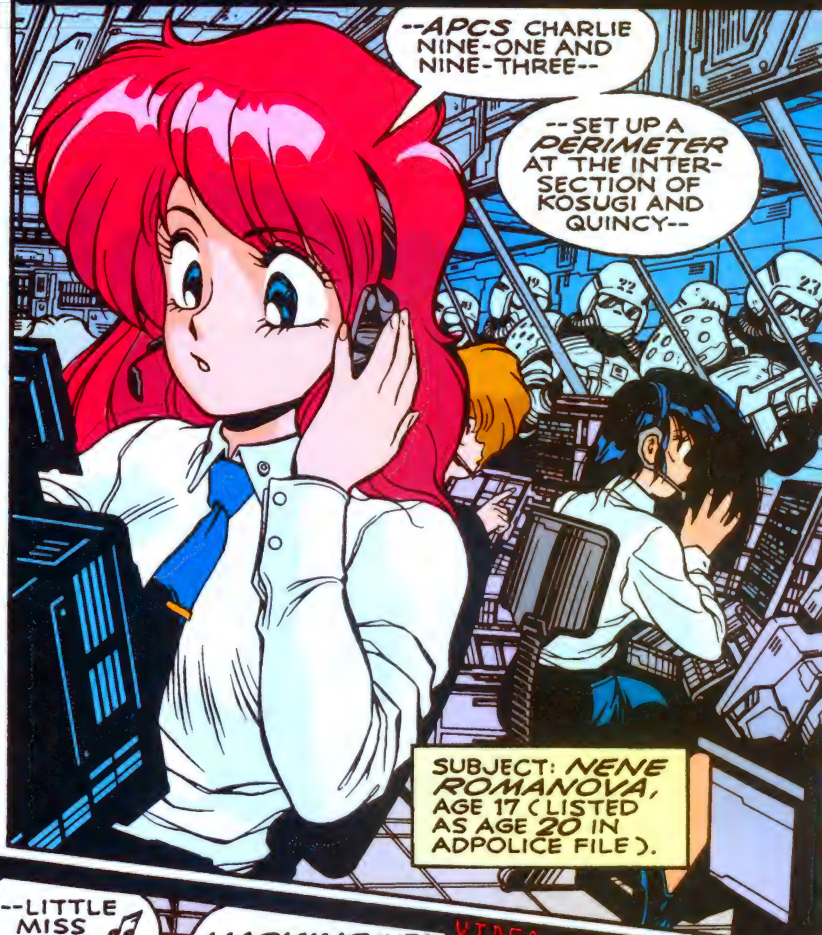
KILLED IN ACTION		
029	2030	2031
TSUYA EGAWA	TSUKASA DOKITE	NG MUI
FUJIO UMAA	JAMES ELLROY	CHOW YUN FAT
YAMAMOTO	KLUTE	KERSON HUANG
YAMAMOTO	INOSANTO	THOM JONES
YAMAMOTO	HATSUMI	KEVIN J. SLEET
YAMAMOTO	ROTHROCK	DREXLER
YAMAMOTO	ASHLEY	DORTON
YAMAMOTO	SHO FUJIMOTO	DEZ
YAMAMOTO	YAMAMOTO	DA HI
YAMAMOTO	DENIS	AR
YAMAMOTO	GLOVE	RI
YAMAMOTO	YAMAMOTO	KA
YAMAMOTO	YAMAMOTO	REC



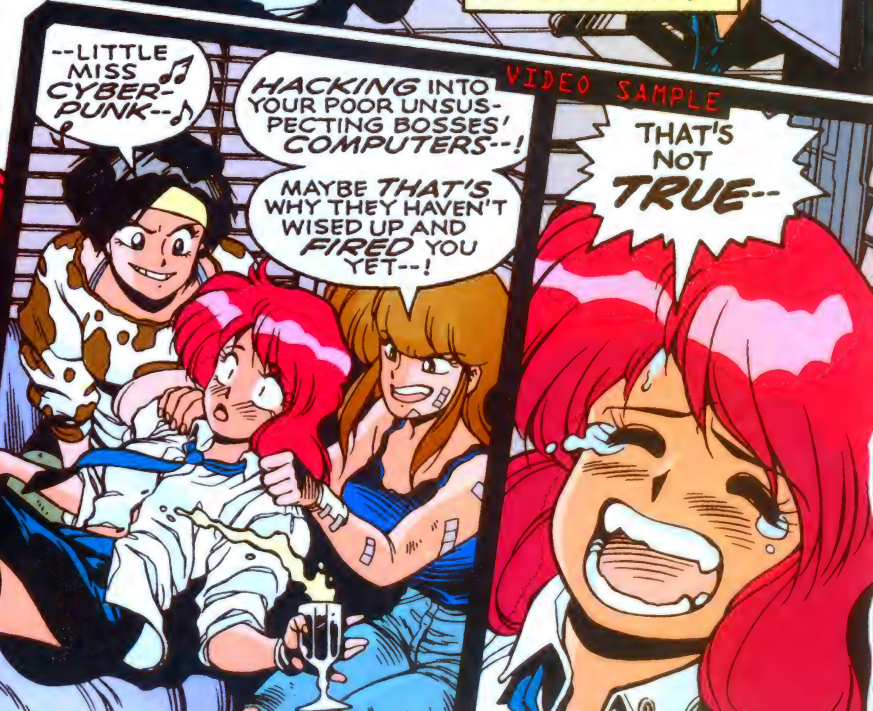
"--THE 'ADVANCED POLICE SPECIAL CRIMES CONTROL UNIT,' FORMED IN 2027 TO COMBAT 'BOOMER CRIME' AND SIMILAR THREATS--"
--"SAY 'HI' TO THE ADPOLICE!" (PR VIDEO)--

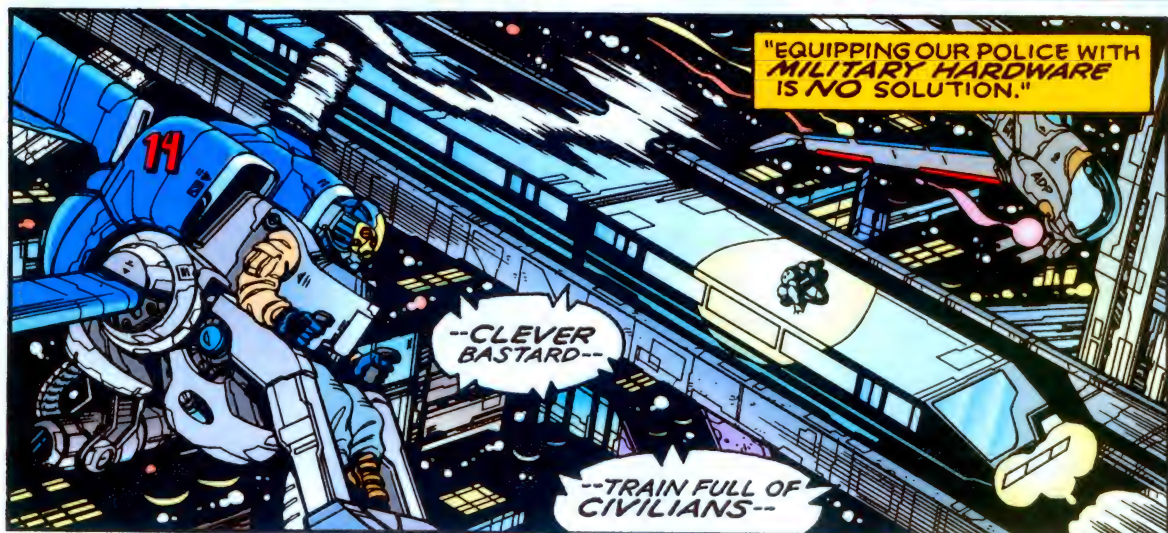
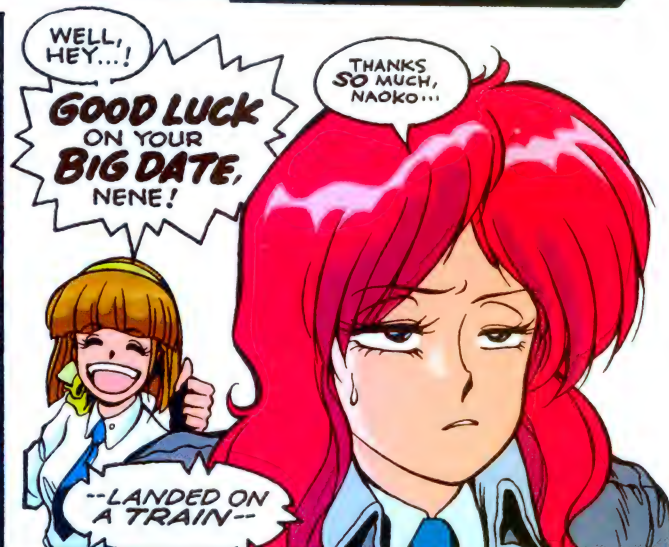
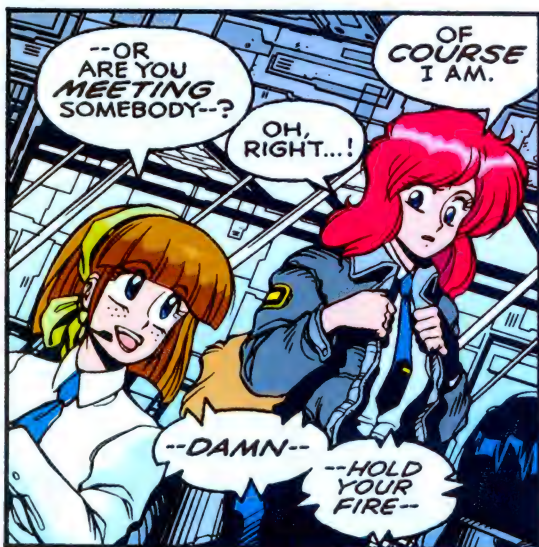
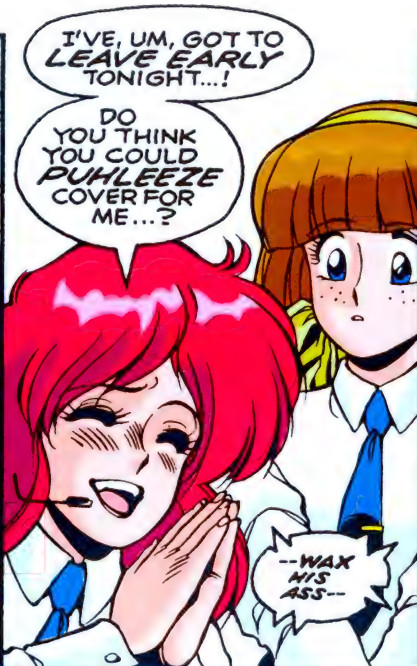
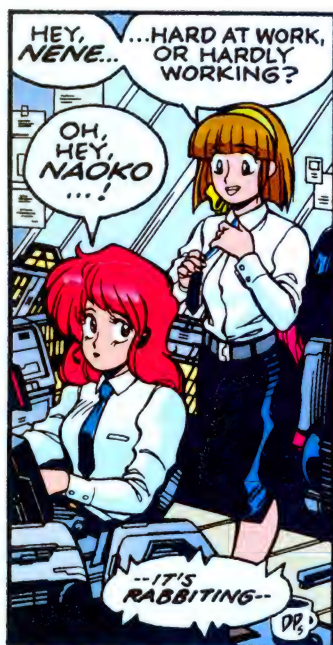


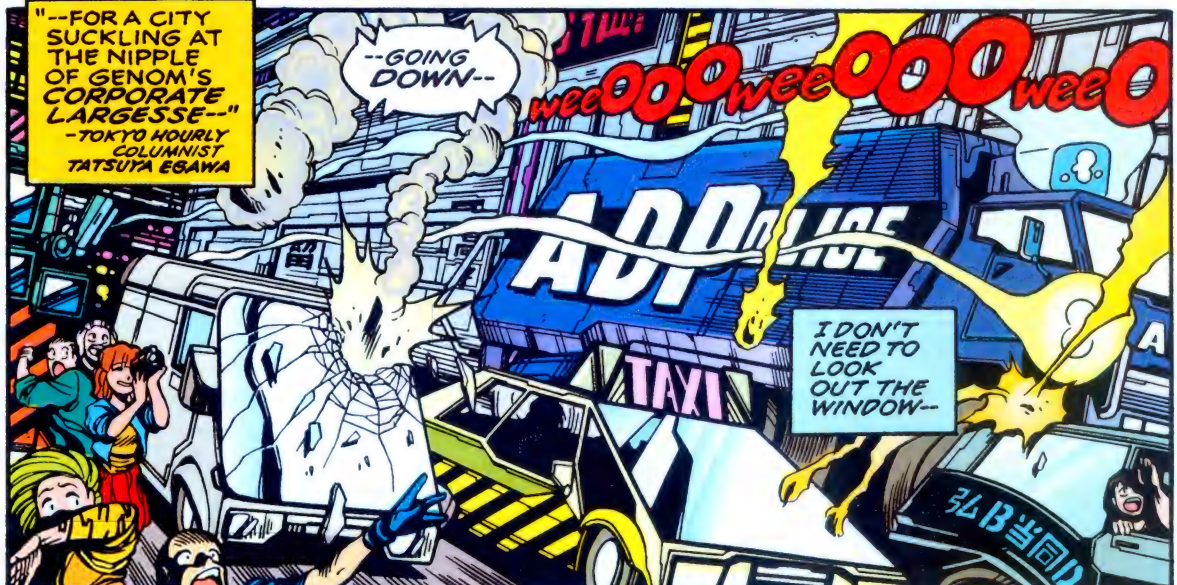
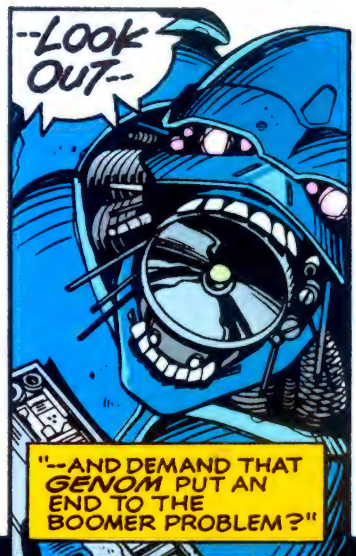
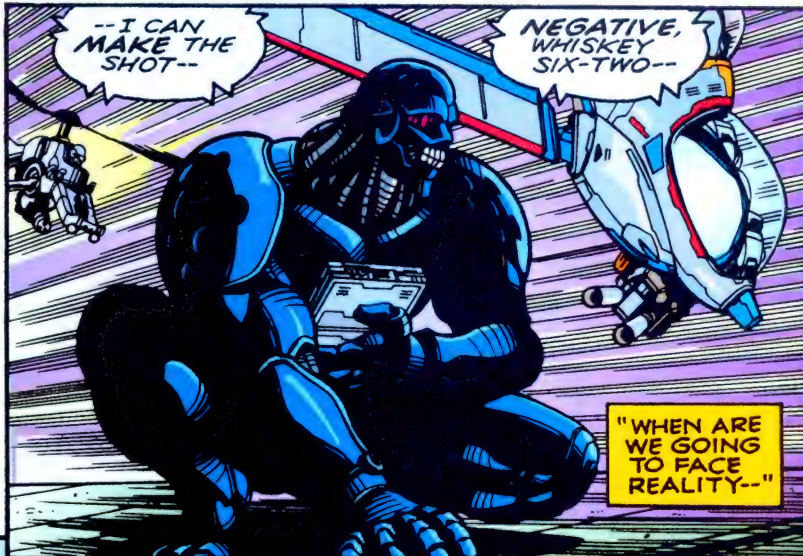
VIDEO SAMPLE

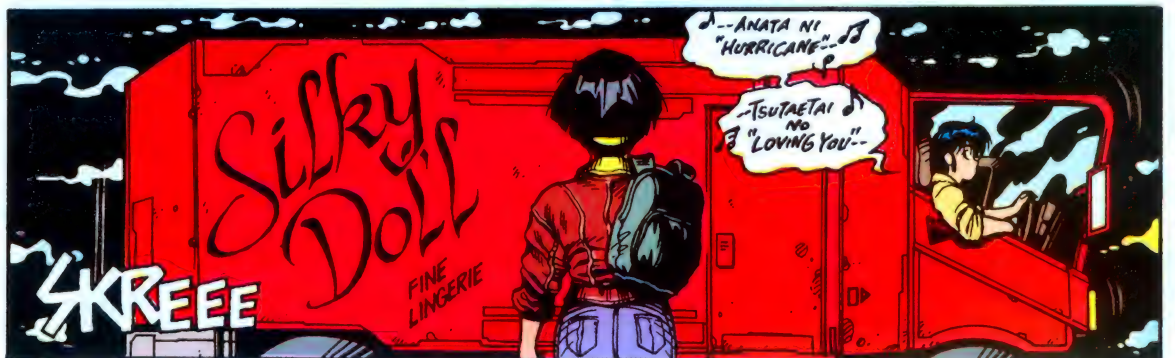
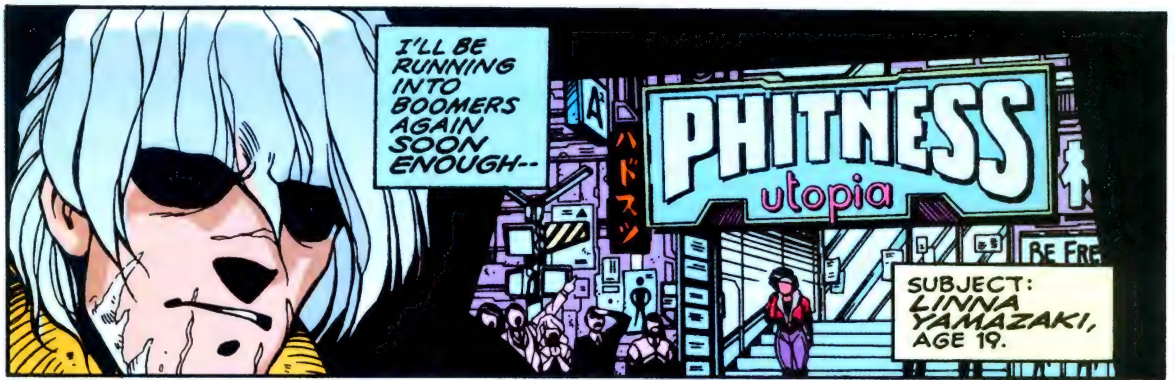


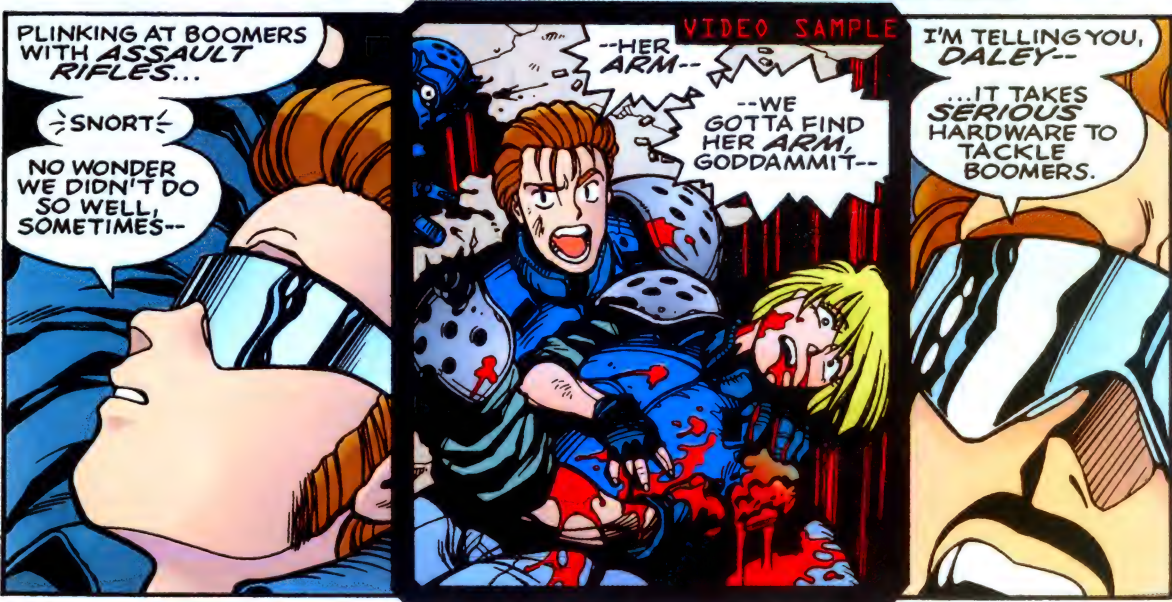
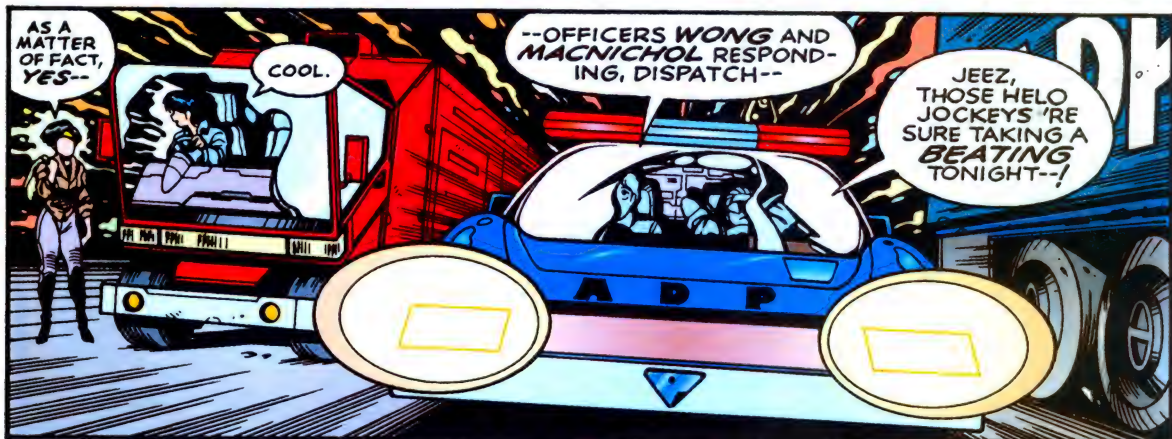
SUBJECT: NENE ROMANOVA, AGE 17 (LISTED AS AGE 20 IN ADPOLICE FILE).

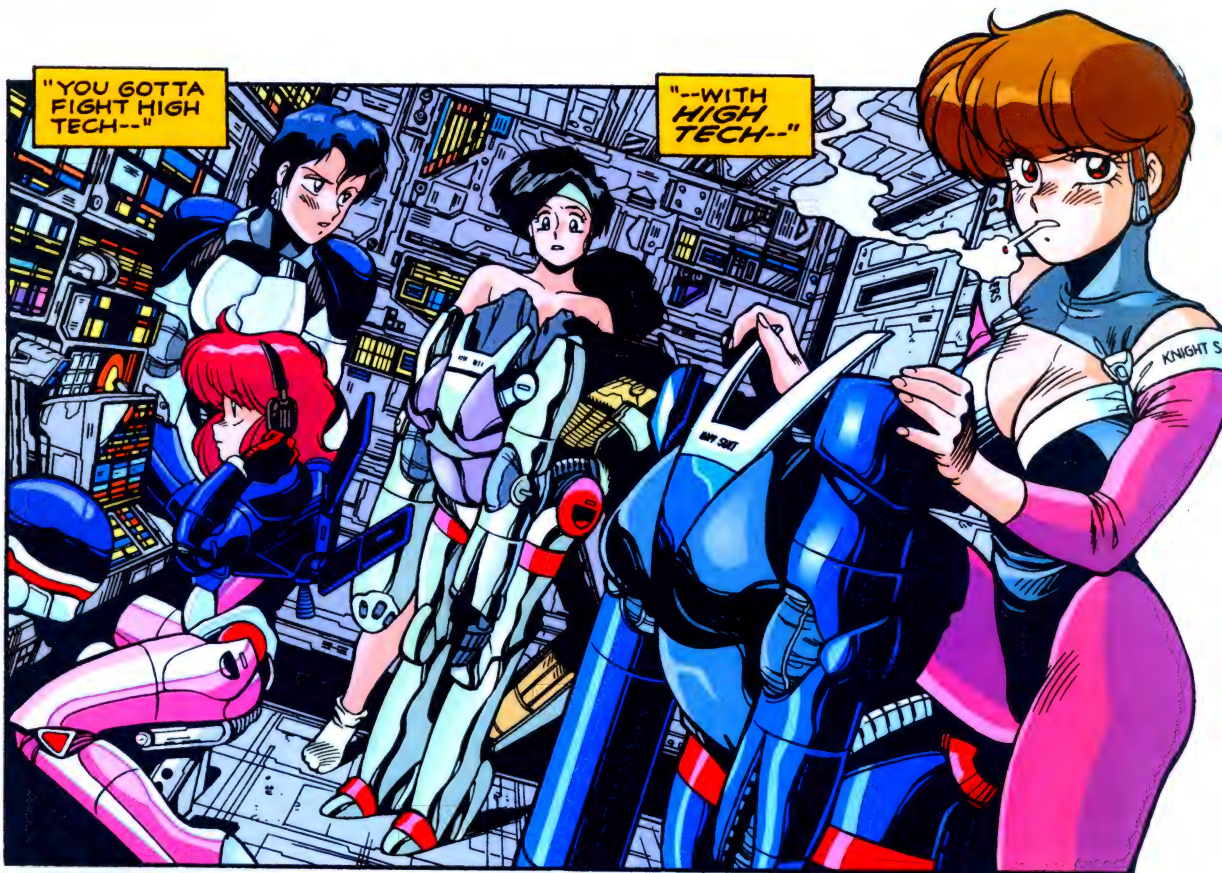












"YOU GOTTA
FIGHT HIGH
TECH--"

"--WITH
HIGH
TECH--"

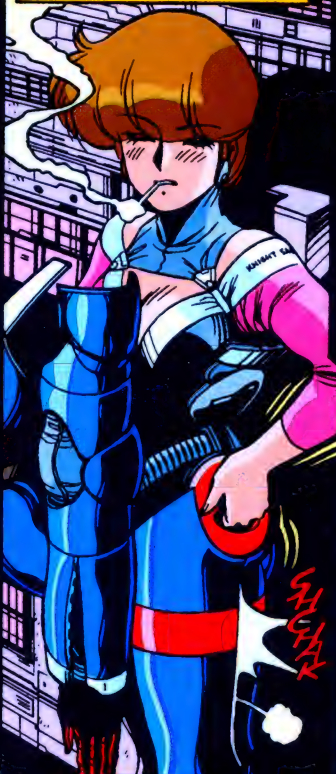
VIDEO SAMPLE

--VIDEOTAPED
IN FLIGHT
OVER THE
NEW
ROPPONGI
DISTRICT--



--MATCHES
NO KNOWN
TYPE OF
BOOMER
OR--

"--CLEARLY
POWERED ARMOR
OF SOME SORT--"



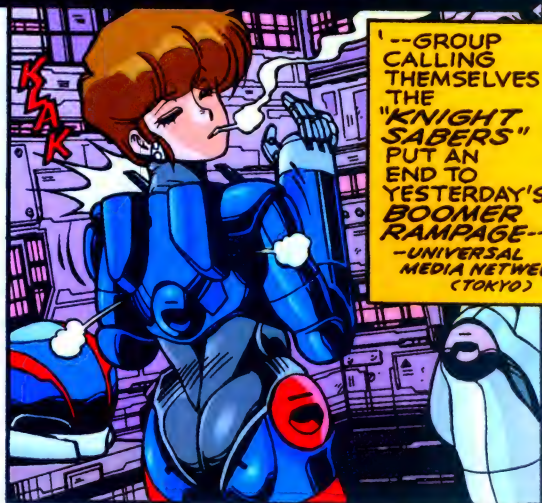
"--BUT WHO'S
WEARING IT?"
--TOKYO HOURLY

VIDEO
SAMPLE



"KNIGHT
SABERS"--?

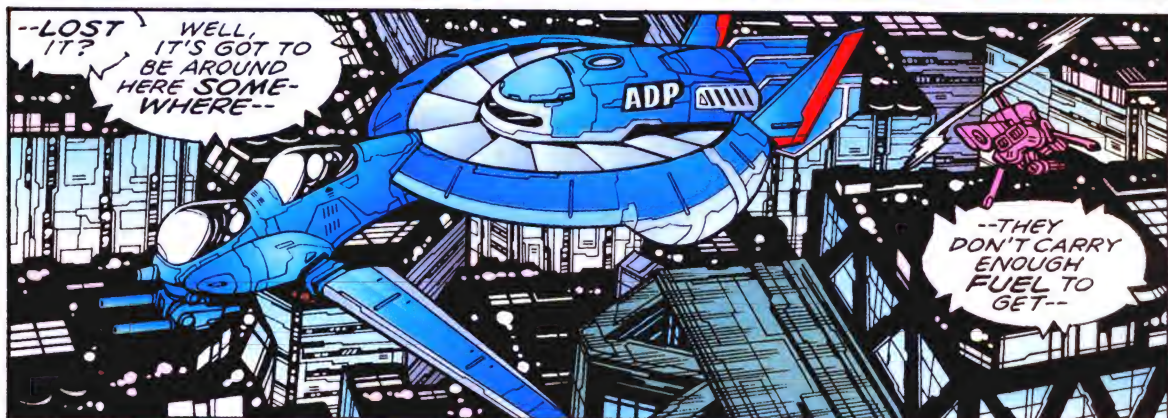
WHO THE
BLEEP IS
THAT--

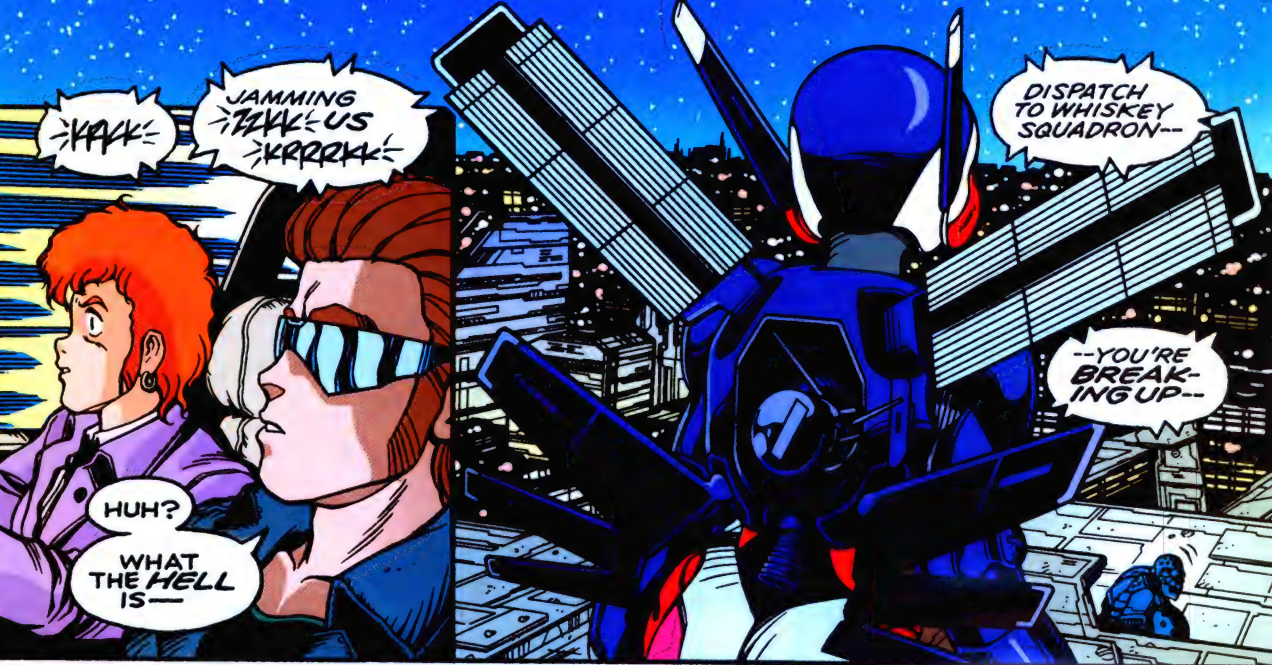


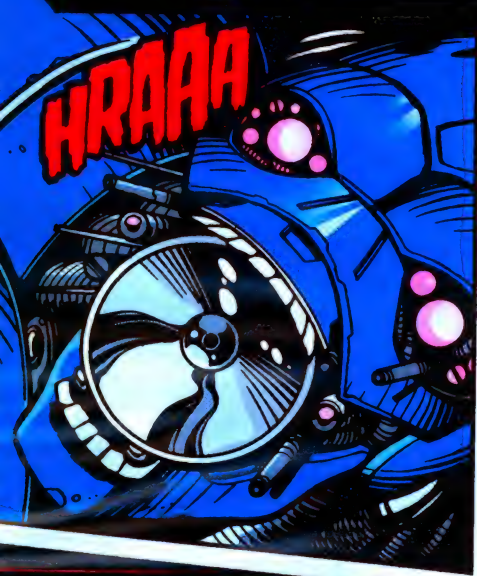
'--GROUP
CALLING
THEMSELVES
THE
"KNIGHT
SABERS"
PUT AN
END TO
YESTERDAY'S
BOOMER
RAMPAGE--'
--UNIVERSAL
MEDIA NETWEB
(TOKYO)

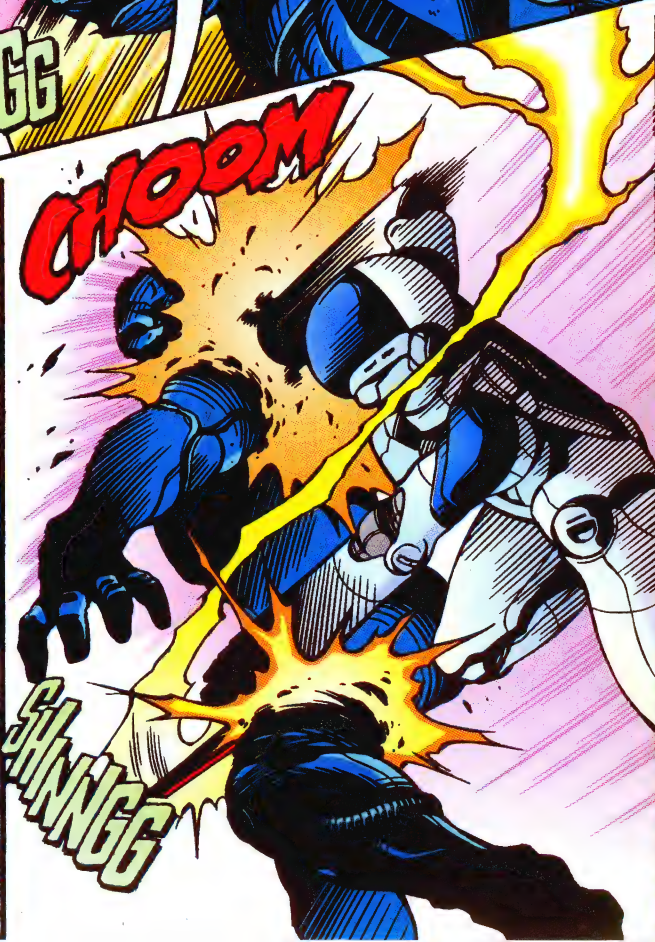
"HIGH-TECH
VIGILANTES:
A LOOK AT MEGA-
TOKYO'S SHADOWY
'KNIGHT SABERS'"
-PACIFICA NEWSNET

"RUMORS OF
'KNIGHT
SABERS' IN-
VOLVEMENT IN
'CORPORATE
MERCENARY'
ACTIVITY...
MORE TONIGHT
AT ELEVEN."
-UNIVERSAL MEDIA
NETWEB (TOKYO)









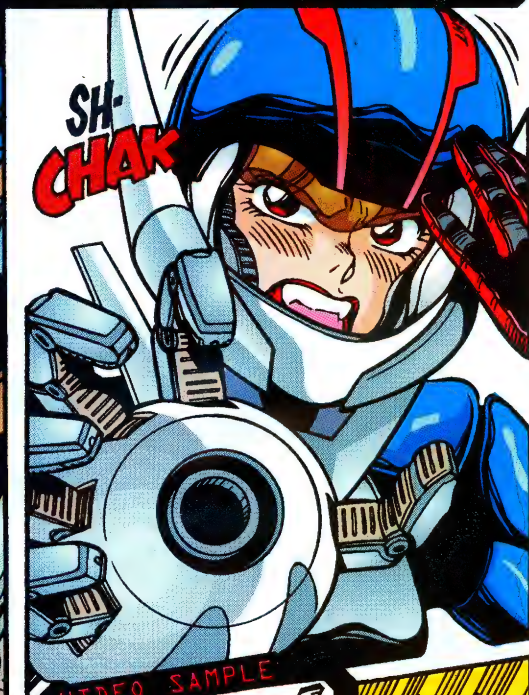
--ON THE
"KNIGHT
SABERS,"
CHAIRMAN
QUINCY--

IS THEIR
ARMOR A
GENOM
INVENTION,
OR--

--REPORTEDLY
DESTROYED COM-
BAT BOOMERS
OF GENOM MANU-
FACTURE--?

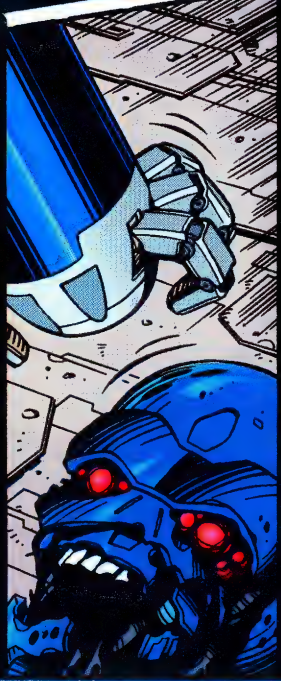
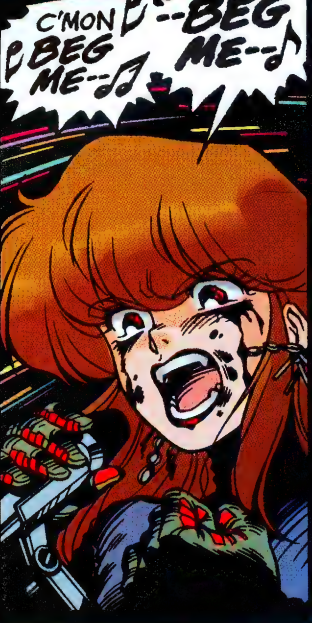
NO
COMMENT.

VIDEO SAMPLE



VIDEO SAMPLE

VIDEO SAMPLE



VIDEO
SAMPLE

--THE "KNIGHT
SABERS"? THEY'RE
CRUCIAL
REALM!!

THE WAY
THEY FIGHT
SICKENING
VIOLENCE
WITH EVEN MORE
SICKENING
VIOLENCE--

--YOU
GOTTA
LOVE
IT--

KNOW
WHAT I LIKE
ABOUT THESE
"KNIGHT
SABERS,"
DALEY?

THEY'VE
GOT GOOD
HAND-
WRITING.

*Knight
Sabers*

YOU JUST
DON'T SEE
THAT TOO
OFTEN NOW-
ADAYS...

THEY'RE NOT
TOO SHABBY AT
SHREDDING
BOOMERS,
EITHER...

HEY,
MACNICHOL--

--WE
FOUND
SOME
THING--!

LOOK
AT
THIS!

'S A HIGH-CAPACITY
MEMORY MODULE.

THIS MODEL
GETS USED AS A
REMOVABLE
STORAGE
DEVICE FOR
BACKUP DATA,
USUALLY...

HUH...

WELL,
BETTER
CALL THE
TECHS.

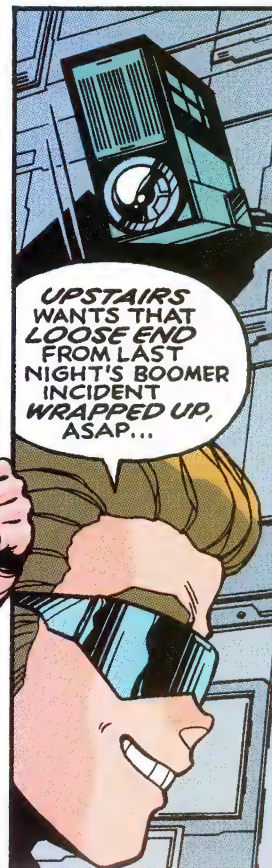
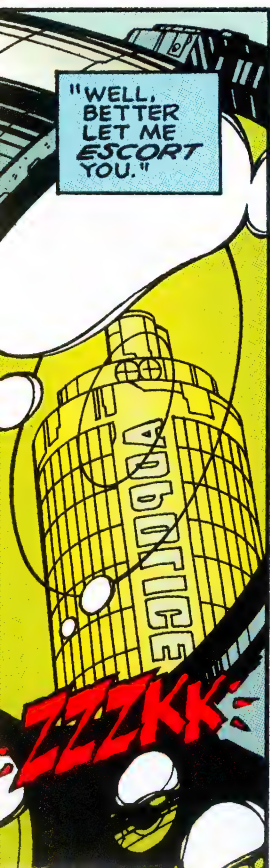
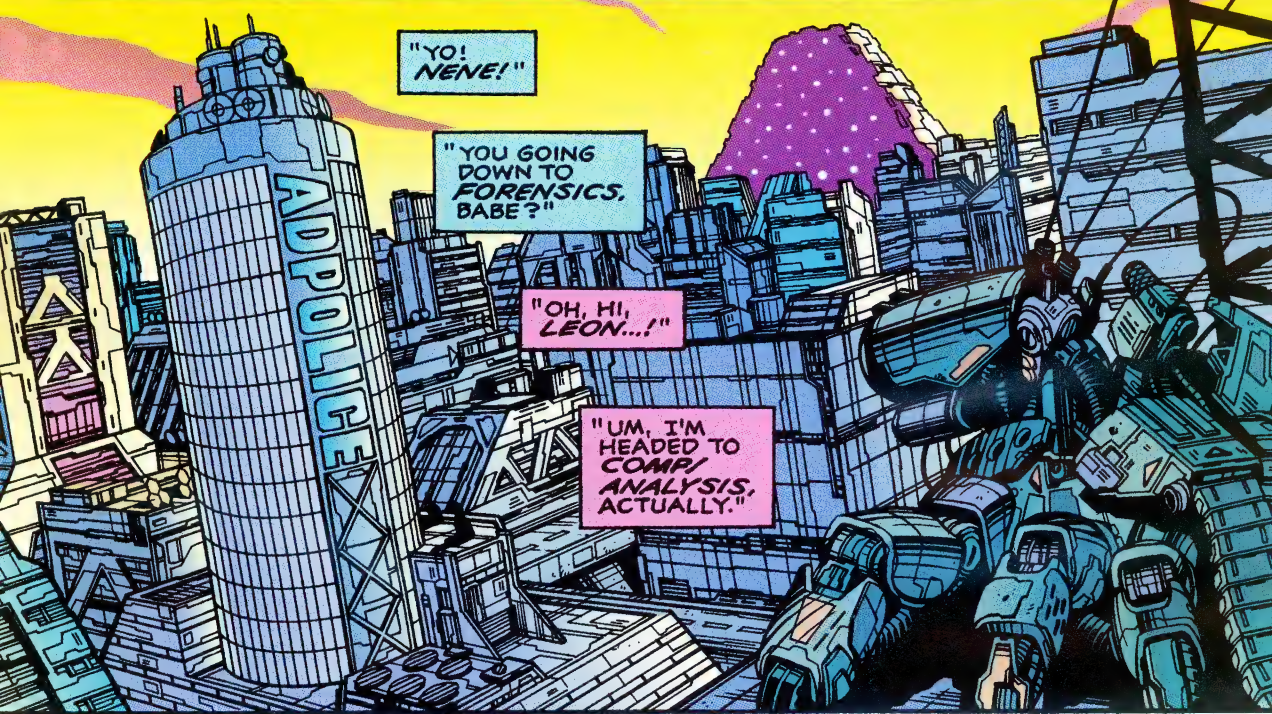
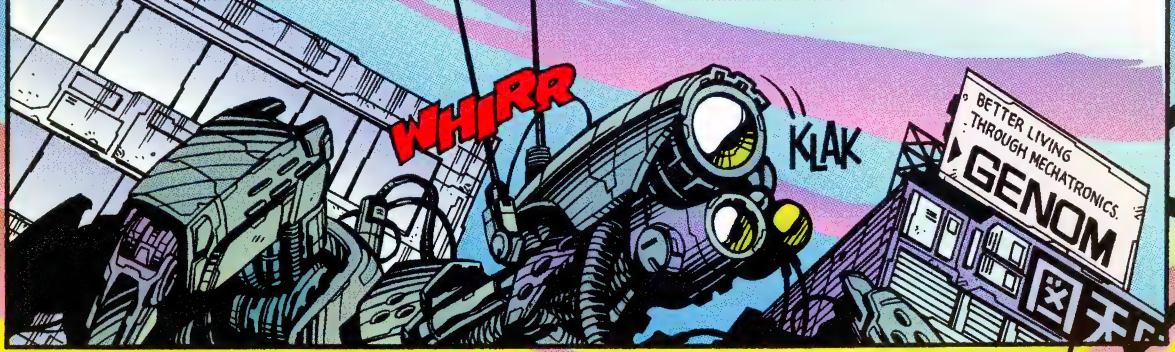
DISKTEK HR 120
OPTICAL-DENSITY
STORAGE
MEMORY MODULE

LOOKS
LIKE A NEW
PUZZLE
FOR THEM
TO PLAY
WITH...

EVIDENCE

CHAPTER TWO







UM...

YEAH.

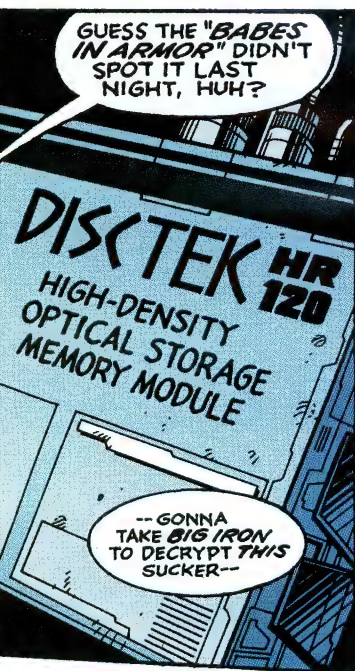
THAT **BOOMER** THE "KNIGHT SABERS" OFFED WAS CARRYING SOME KIND OF "MEMORY MODULE" THINGAMABOB.

--IT'S GOT AN **INCREDIBLE** COMPRESSION LEVEL--

--WEIRDEST CODING I'VE EVER SEEN--

LAB 3A

DISCTEK HR 120
HIGH-DENSITY
OPTICAL STORAGE
MEMORY MODULE



GUESS THE "**BABES IN ARMOR**" DIDN'T SPOT IT LAST NIGHT, HUH?

OH, **JEEZ...**!

I DIDN'T NOTICE THE STUPID THING...

BETTER LET **ADMIN** KNOW THE BAD NEWS--

WHAT'S THAT, NENE?

OH, UH, **NOTHING** ...!

--**BREAKING** THIS'LL TAKE A DAY OR TWO, AT LEAST--



UM... SO...

...SINCE IT WAS RECOVERED FROM A **BOOMER**...



"THIS MODULE'S SOMEHOW CONNECTED TO **GENOM**, RIGHT?"

"NOPE."

"THE TECHS SAY ITS CODING'S **NOTHING** LIKE THE KIND OUR PALS AT **GENOM CORPORATION** WOULD USE."

"WEIRD, AIN'T IT?"

AUDIO SAMPLES:

"OH, GENOM TOWER..."

"...YOU KILO-METER-HIGH PHALLIC SYMBOL..."

"LOOMING OVER THE DWARFED SKYLINE OF SO-CALLED 'MEGATOKYO',..."

MY, MY...

...IF IT ISN'T A FELLOW "INTELLECTUAL ASSET..."

"...AS A NONE-TOO-SUBTLE REMINDER OF EXACTLY WHO DOMINATES OUR WEAK-WILLED CITY AND NATION... AND WORLD..."

—AKIRA SASANISHIKI, "STREET POET"

...FORCED TO GO SLUMMING IN THE GRAVITY WELL!

THAT'S AN APT AND INSIGHTFUL SUMMATION OF MY CURRENT SITUATION, CERTAINLY.

STILL PLAYING WITH KNIVES, I SEE...

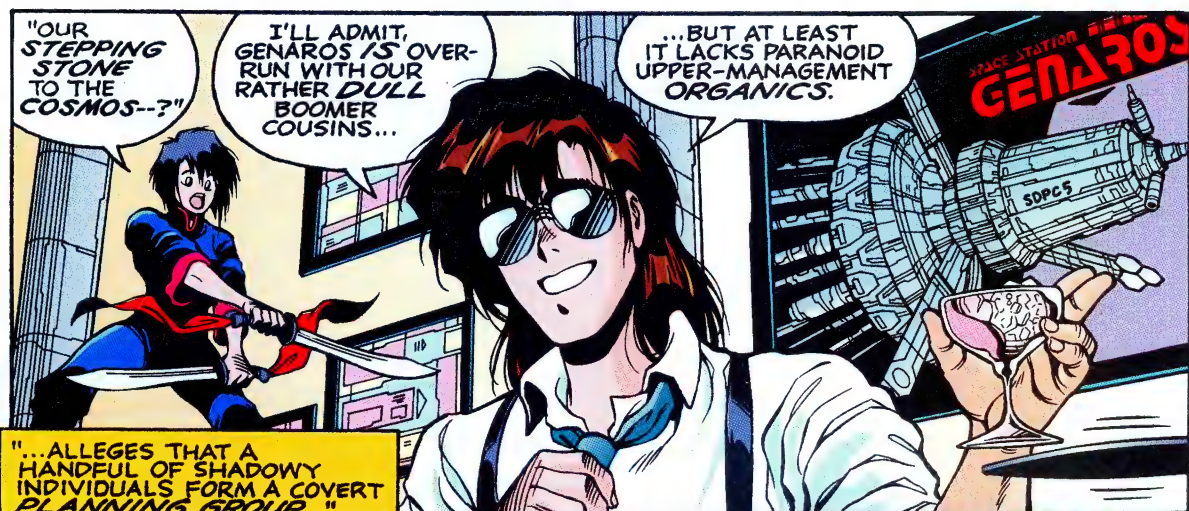
OF COURSE.

NOTHING EQUALS THE TWO-SWORD FORMS FOR RELAXING THE 'SEETHING CAULDRON' OF MY MIND...

OOH, SEETHING, IS IT?

SO... DID YOU ENJOY YOUR STAY ON GLORIOUS "SPACE ISLAND GENAROS"!

"A FASCINATING RUMOR ABOUT GENOM'S WORLD-WIDE SUCCESS..."



"OUR STEPPING STONE TO THE COSMOS--?"

I'LL ADMIT, GENAROS IS OVER-RUN WITH OUR RATHER DULL BOOMER COUSINS...

...BUT AT LEAST IT LACKS PARANOID UPPER-MANAGEMENT ORGANICS.

"...ALLEGES THAT A HANDFUL OF SHADOWY INDIVIDUALS FORM A COVERT PLANNING GROUP..."



ON THAT SUBJECT...

...HAVE THE ORGANICS *HERE* THREATENED TO RESET YOUR NEUROPHAGES YET?

"...UNLISTED IN ANY OFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONAL CHART..."



WITH OUR EUROPEAN MECH FRIEND DUE TO ENACT ITS "SINISTER PLAN"?

I THINK NOT--

"...WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MUCH OF GENOM'S INNOVATIVE CORPORATE STRATEGY..."
-BIZNET RUNDRLINE



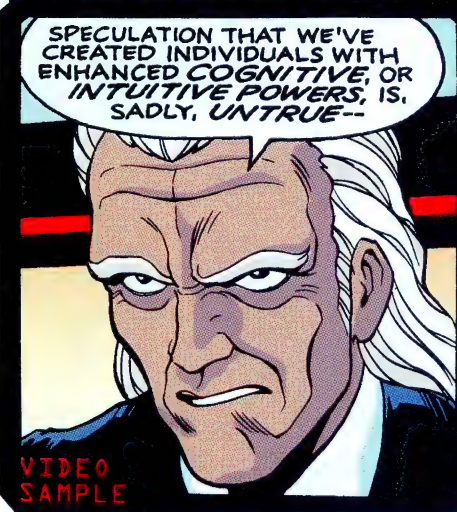
VIDEO SAMPLE

--THE PROCESS BY WHICH BOOMER ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS GENERATED DOES HAVE ITS LIMITATIONS, UNFORTUNATELY.

沼雄

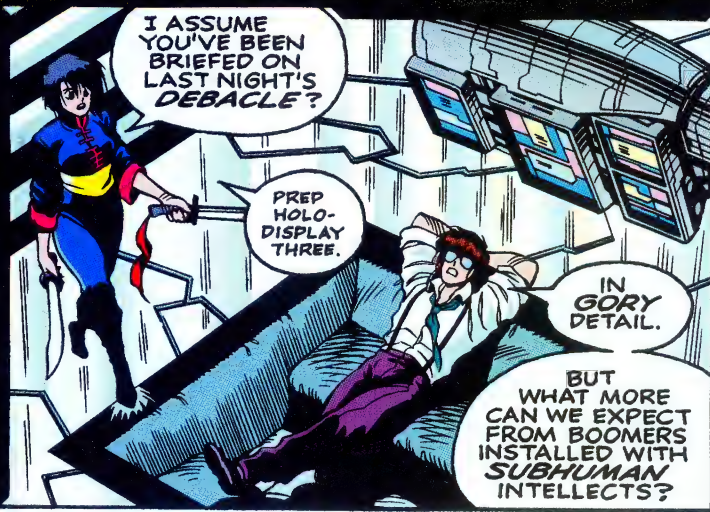
TOKY BIZ TALK

GENOM EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRMAN QUINCY



SPECULATION THAT WE'VE CREATED INDIVIDUALS WITH ENHANCED COGNITIVE, OR INTUITIVE POWERS, IS, SADLY, UNTRUE--

VIDEO SAMPLE

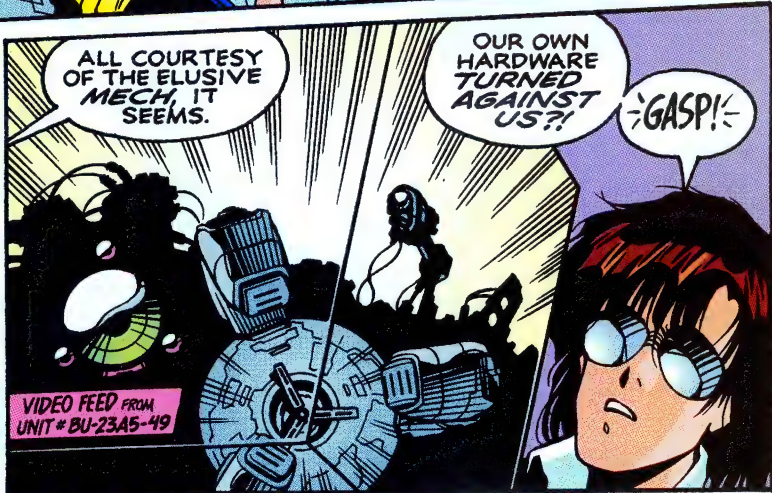
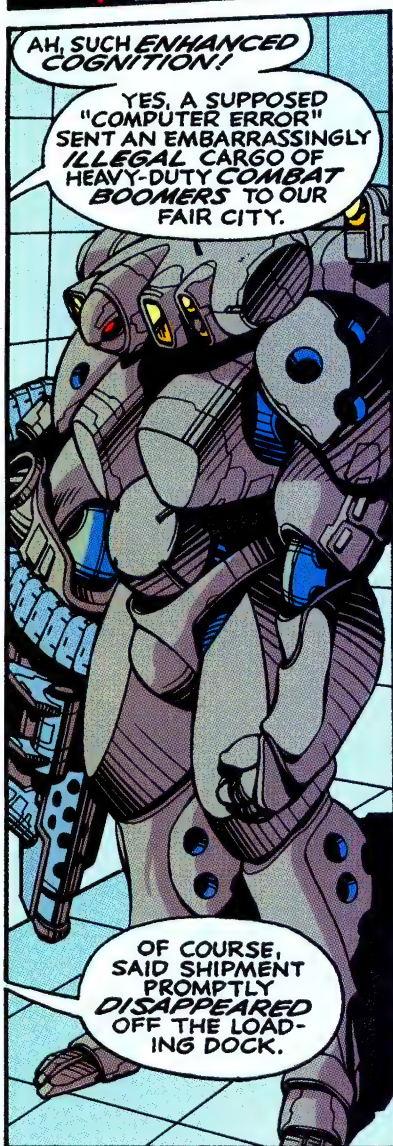
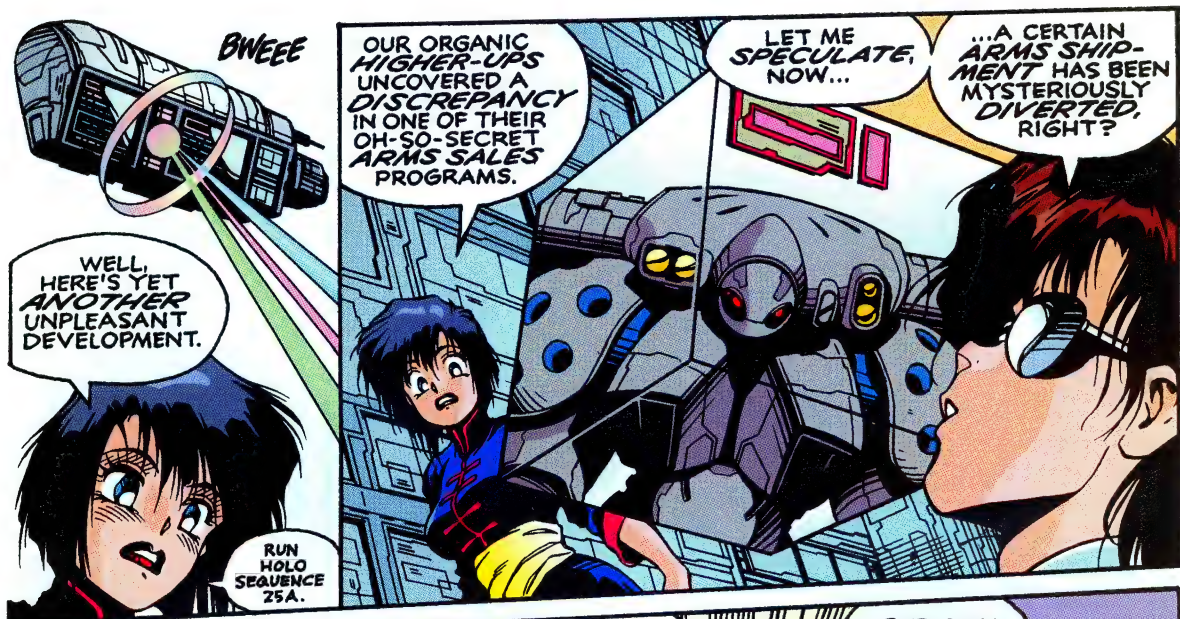


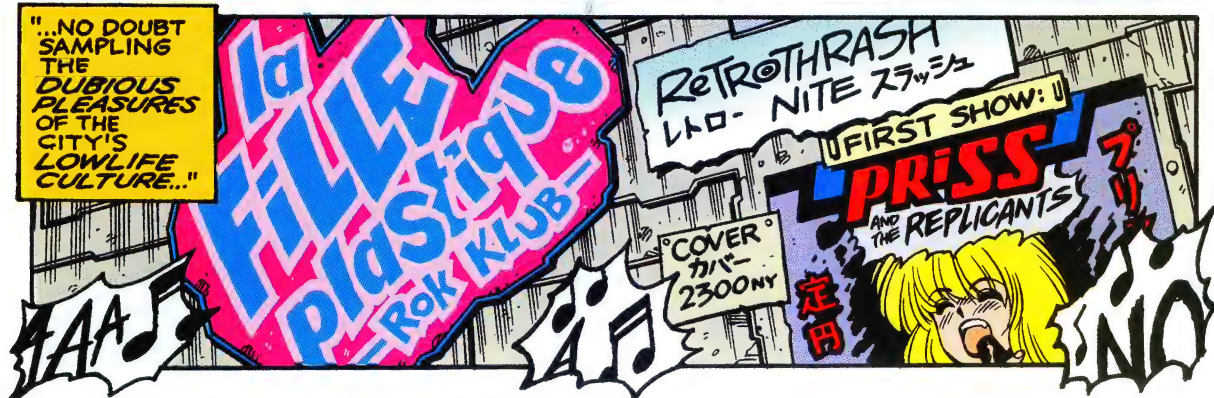
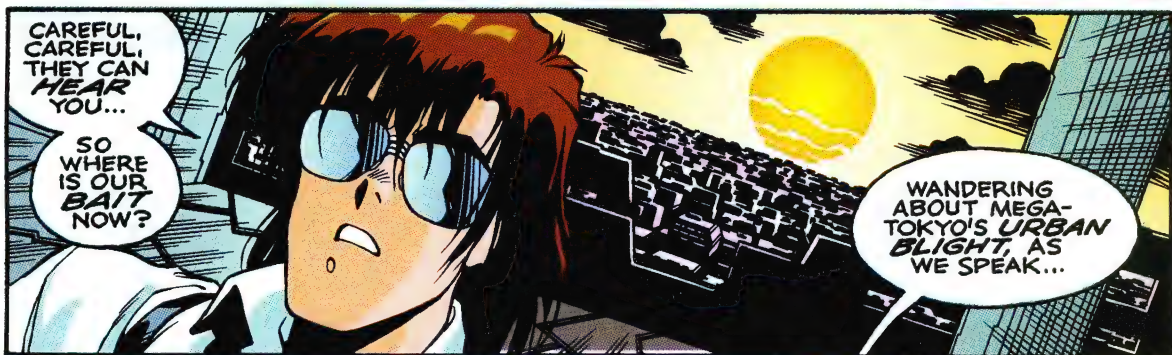
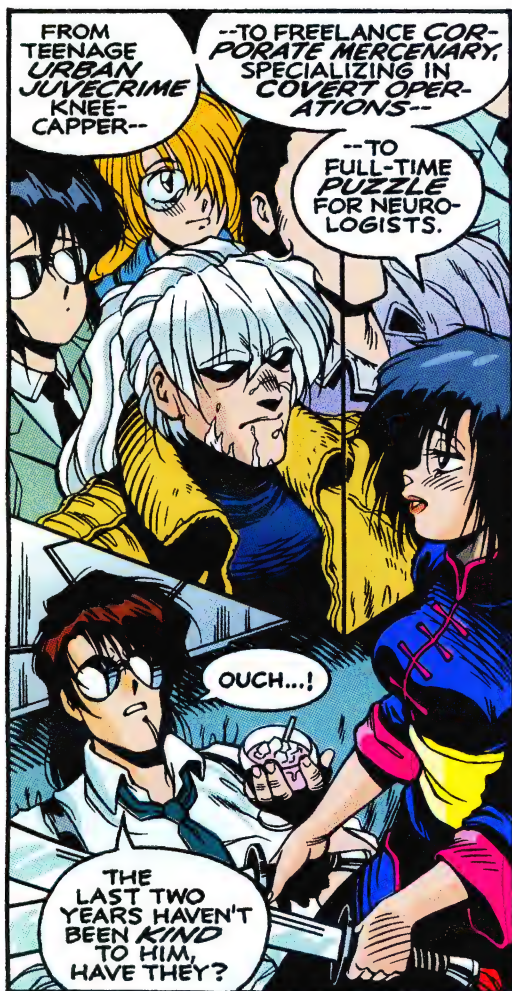
I ASSUME YOU'VE BEEN BRIEFED ON LAST NIGHT'S DEBACLE?

PREP HOLO-DISPLAY THREE.

IN GORY DETAIL.

BUT WHAT MORE CAN WE EXPECT FROM BOOMERS INSTALLED WITH SUBHUMAN INTELLECTS?



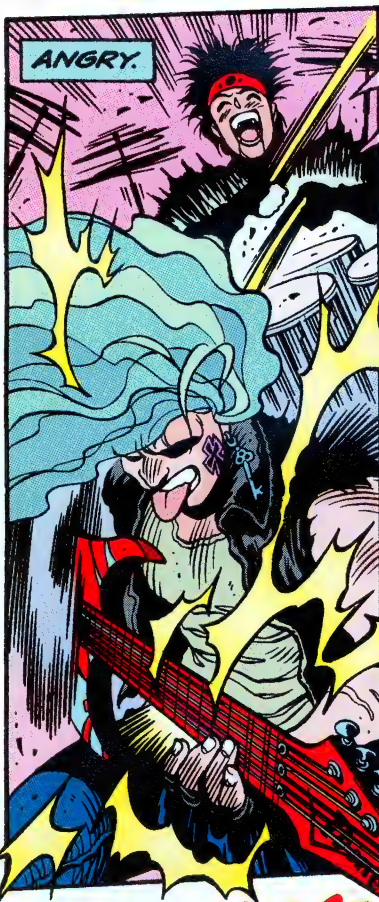
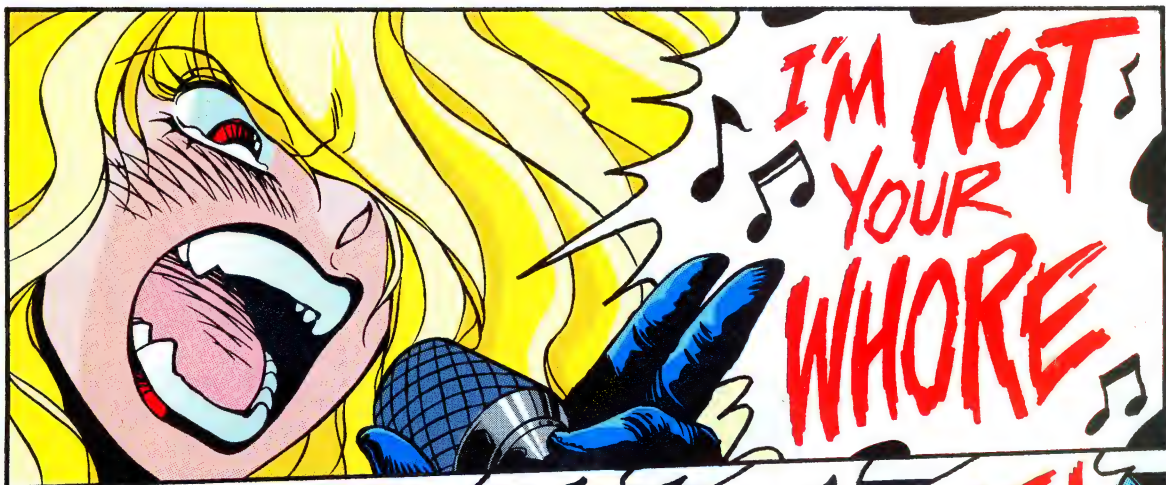


MY
MISSION
IN LIFE...

IS TO SEE
YOU **DIE**

...BABY.





**I'M YOUR NOOSE
--YOUR RAZOR
BLADE--
--YOUR LETHAL
INJECTION--**



WRITHING
IN PAIN

NEVER COULD
STOMACH
THE PRISSEY
SO-CALLED
"MUSIC"
OF THOSE
MINIMONO
POSEURS...

...OR EVEN THE
FAUVISTS,
WITH THEIR
TRENDY
AUGMENTED
VOCAL CORDS...

...BUT RETROTHRASH
I CAN DEAL WITH, AS LONG
AS IT'S LOUD, FAST,
AND LAUGHABLE.

NOW, THIS BAND'S GOT THE
PERIOD INSTRUMENTA-
TION DOWN...

...AND THE LEAD
SINGER'S NOT
AFRAID TO SPORT
THOSE OUTRE
PERIOD OUTFITS.

HER VOCALS
AREN'T BAD,
EITHER.

VIDEO SAMPLE

--BACK TO YOUR
POLITICAL
VIEWS, PRISS.

NOW,
EXACTLY WHAT
"SERIOUS
STATEMENT"
ARE YOU MAKING
WITH THAT SILLY
BLONDE WIG
AND ANIMAL
LEATHER MINI-
SKIRT?

THE
STATE-
MENT
IS THIS--

--BLEEP--
OFF,
JERK--

SHE SOUNDS LIKE ME
AS A TEENAGER...

YOUNG...
ANGRY...
UTTERLY
WITHOUT
A CLUE.

YOU'LL NEVER
CONTROL
MEEEEEE

VIDEO SAMPLE

--DAMN RIGHT--

I'M NOT LIKE
THE REST OF YOU
SHEEP--

QUIXOTE
IN A
MINISKIRT.

I PARTICULAR-
LY LIKE THE
SEARING
POLITICAL
INSIGHTS OF
HER LYRICS...

--C'MON--
--SAY IT!
"GENOM SUCKS!"

I
CAN'T
HEAR
YOU--

HMMF.

SO
THIS IS
SYLIA'S NEWEST
ACQUISITION.

VERY
DYNAMIC
ARCHITECTURE...!
->SNORT->

AND NOT
IN A VERY
FASHIONABLE
NEIGHBOR-
HOOD...!

OH
WELL.

UM...
HELLO?

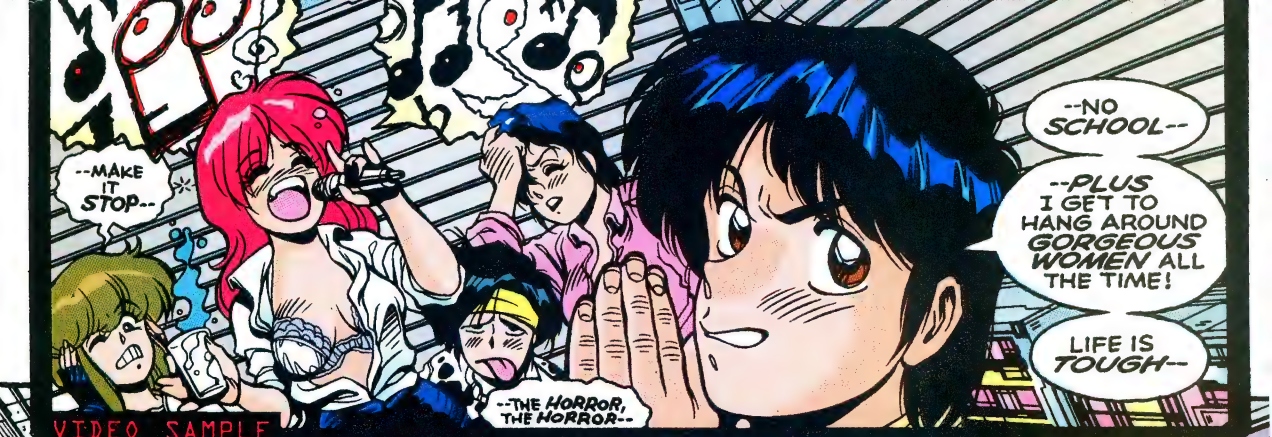
SYLIA?
ANYBODY
HOME?

-SKAK-

♪HELLO, ♪
MACKIE...!

OH,
UH...
HI!

COME
ON IN,
NENE!



--MAKE IT STOP--

--NO SCHOOL--

--PLUS I GET TO HANG AROUND GORGEOUS WOMEN ALL THE TIME!

LIFE IS TOUGH--

--THE HORROR, THE HORROR--

VIDEO SAMPLE



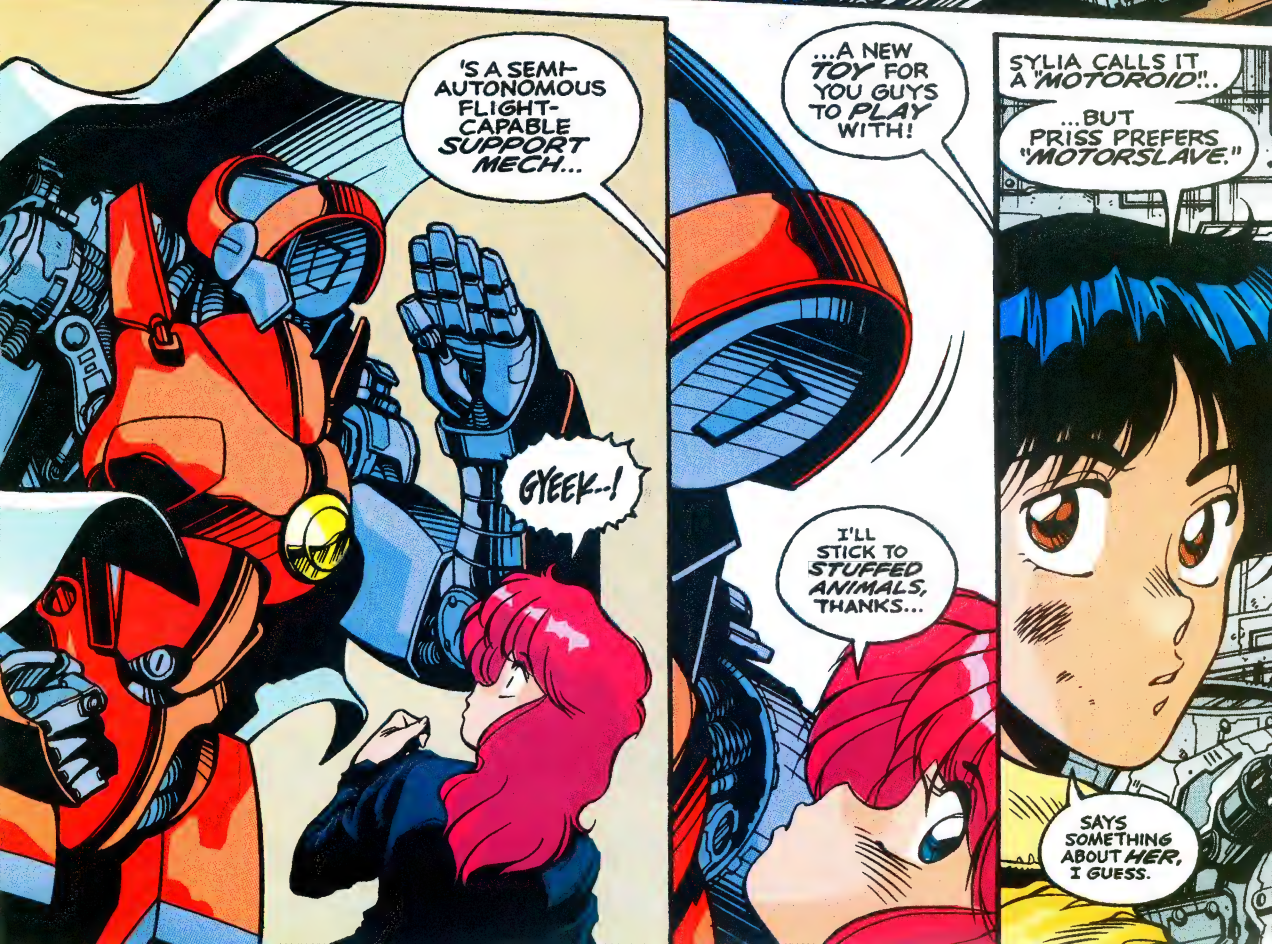
POOR MACKIE...

UH, MORE OR LESS...

SAY "HI," BOY!

...SLAVING AWAY DOWN HERE IN THE DUNGEON ALL DAY...!

HEY, CHECK IT OUT... SYLIA'S HAD ME WORKING ON SOMETHING NEW AND FUNKY!



'S A SEMI-AUTONOMOUS FLIGHT-CAPABLE SUPPORT MECH...

...A NEW TOY FOR YOU GUYS TO PLAY WITH!

SYLIA CALLS IT A "MOTOROID"...
...BUT PRISS PREFERS "MOTORSLAVE."

GEEK--!

I'LL STICK TO STUFFED ANIMALS, THANKS...

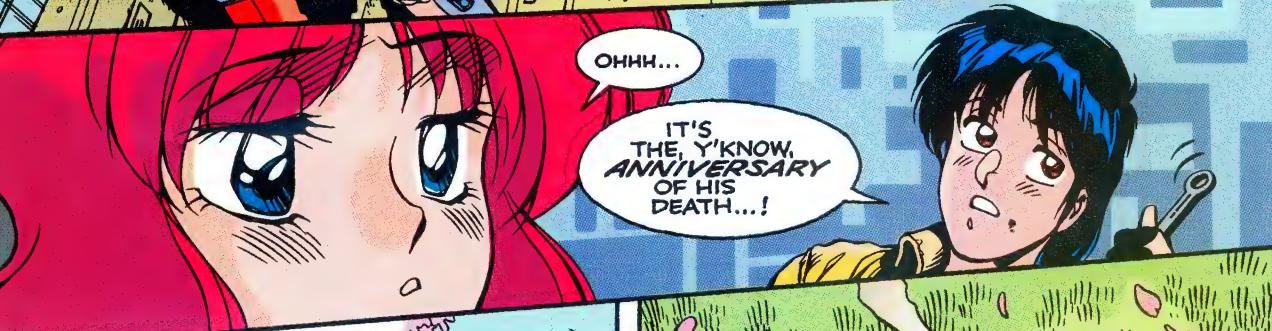
SAYS SOMETHING ABOUT HER, I GUESS.



THAT'S
FOR
SURE...

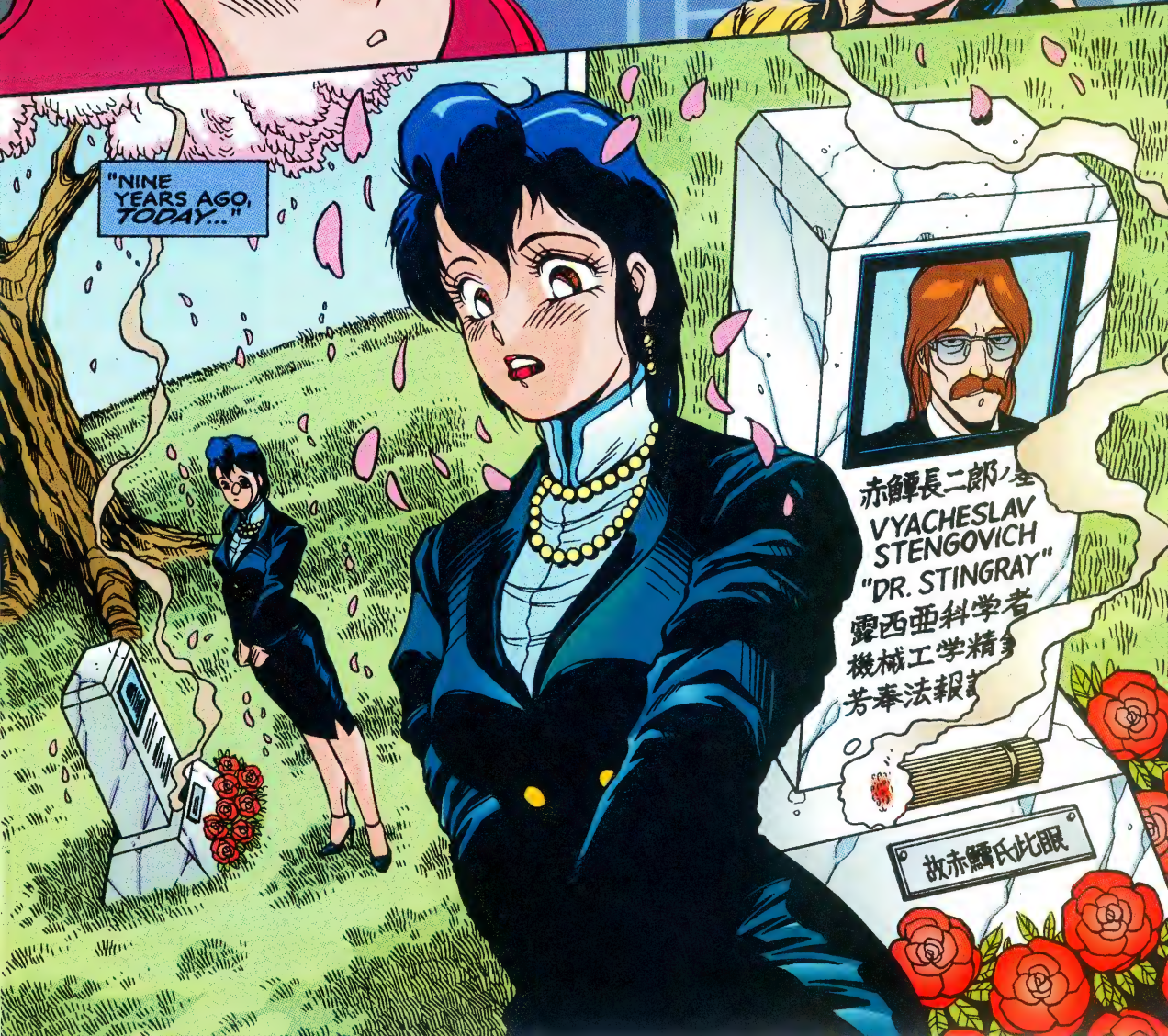
UM...SO...
WHERE'S YOUR
SISTER? I'VE GOT
SOME BAD NEWS
FOR HER...

OOPS...
SORRY,
SYLIA'S, UH,
"VISITING"
DAD RIGHT
NOW.



OHHH...

IT'S
THE, Y'KNOW,
ANNIVERSARY
OF HIS
DEATH...!



"NINE
YEARS AGO,
TODAY..."

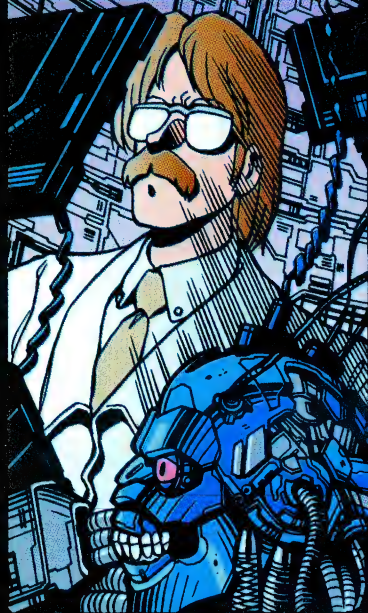
赤鱗長二郎
VYACHESLAV
STENGOVICH
"DR. STINGRAY"
露西亞科學者
機械工學精
芳奉法報

故赤鱗氏比眼

VIDEO SAMPLE

--PERHAPS THE MOST
SIGNIFICANT
ASPECT OF DR.
STINGRAY'S RESEARCH--

--WAS HIS DEVELOPMENT
OF THE BOOMERS' FORM
OF **ARTIFICIAL**
INTELLIGENCE--



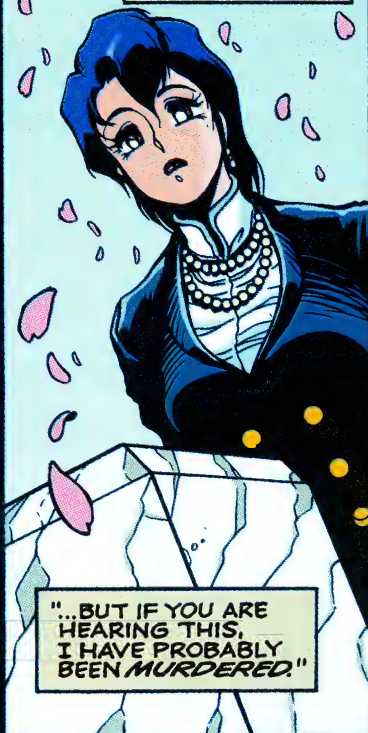
"I MUST LEAVE **SOME**
COUNTER TO GENOM'S
CERTAIN **ABUSE**
OF MY WORK.

"**YOU** WILL BE
THAT COUNTER,
SYLIA."



"SYLIA.

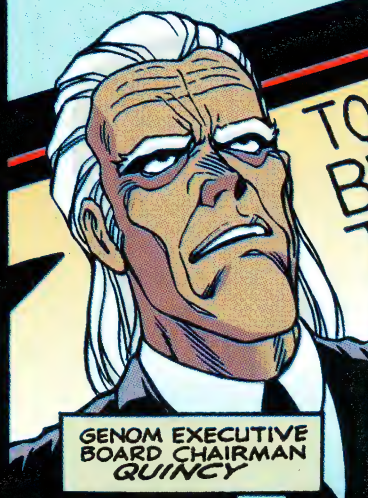
"PLEASE
PARDON THE
MELODRAMA...



"...BUT IF YOU ARE
HEARING THIS,
I HAVE PROBABLY
BEEN **MURDERED**."

--OF COURSE, WE
ARE **FOREVER**
INDEBTED TO THE
BRILLIANT WORK
OF THE LATE **DR.**
STINGRAY.

WITHOUT
HIS IMPORTANT
CONTRIBUTIONS,
GENOM CORPORATION MIGHT NEVER
HAVE--



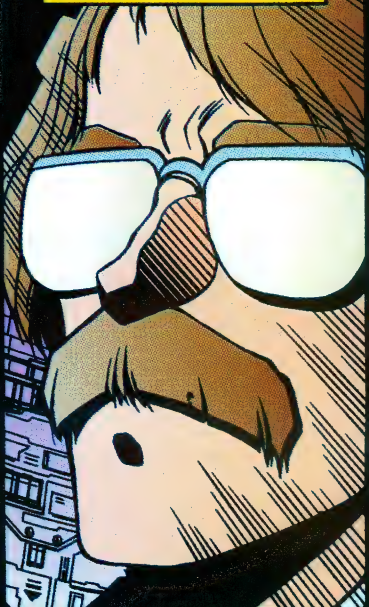
GENOM EXECUTIVE
BOARD CHAIRMAN
QUINCY

VIDEO SAMPLE

VIDEO SAMPLE

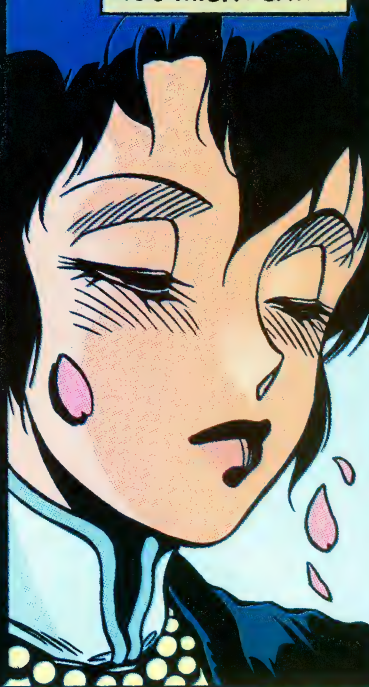
--WITH A RESULT
CLOSELY ANALOGOUS
TO HUMAN
CONSCIOUSNESS.

EXACTLY **HOW**
THIS WAS ACHIEVED
REMAINS GENOM'S
TRADE SECRET.



"TO
AID
YOU IN
THIS...

"...I HAVE
GIVEN YOU
AND YOUR
BROTHER
CERTAIN...**GIFTS**,
YOU MIGHT SAY."



LET ME
ADD...

...DR. STINGRAY
WAS ALSO A
CLOSE PERSONAL
FRIEND...*CHOKE*

VIDEO
SAMPLE

"...AND, IN
THE EVENT,
THAT, AH,
DIRECT
ACTION
AGAINST
GENOM IS
REQUIRED..."

"...I'VE ALSO LEFT
YOU TECHNICAL
INFORMATION
REGARDING A
PROMISING TYPE
OF *COMBAT*
ARMOR I'VE BEEN
DEVELOPING..."

VIDEO
SAMPLE

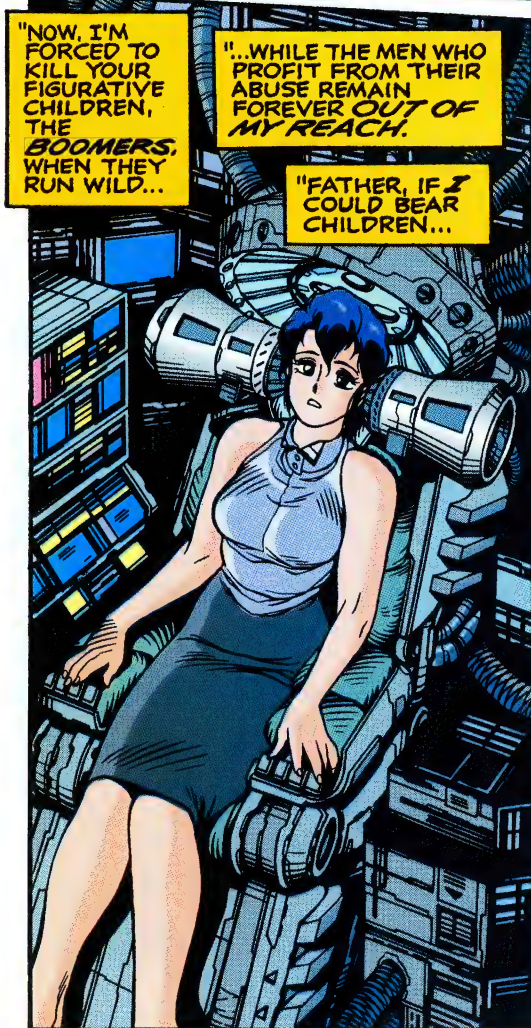
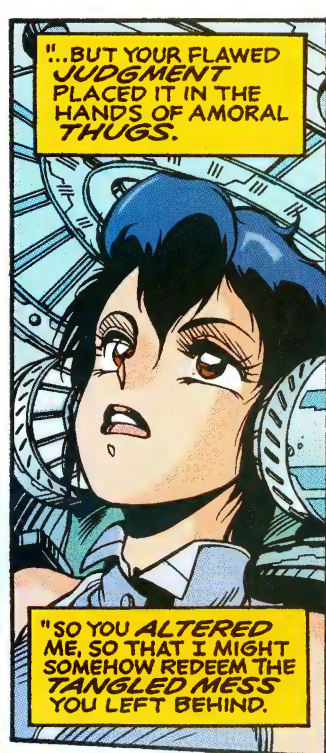
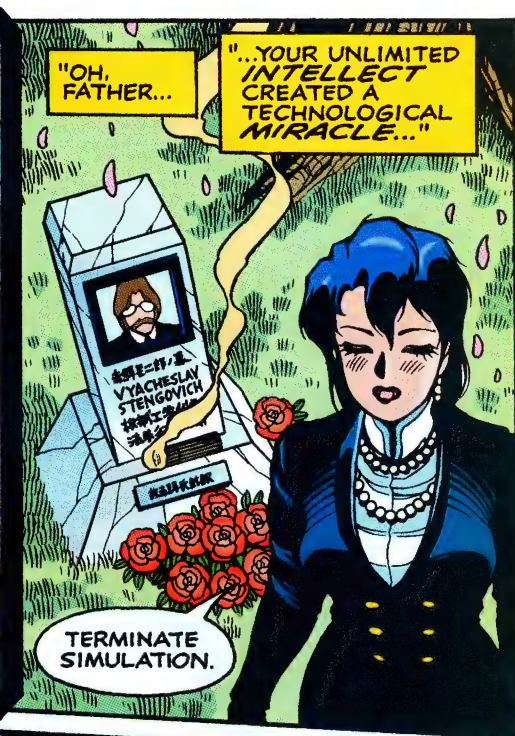
EVEN MORE
ENIGMATIC
THAN THE
MOTIVES
OF MEGA-
TOKYO'S
"KNIGHT
SABERS"--

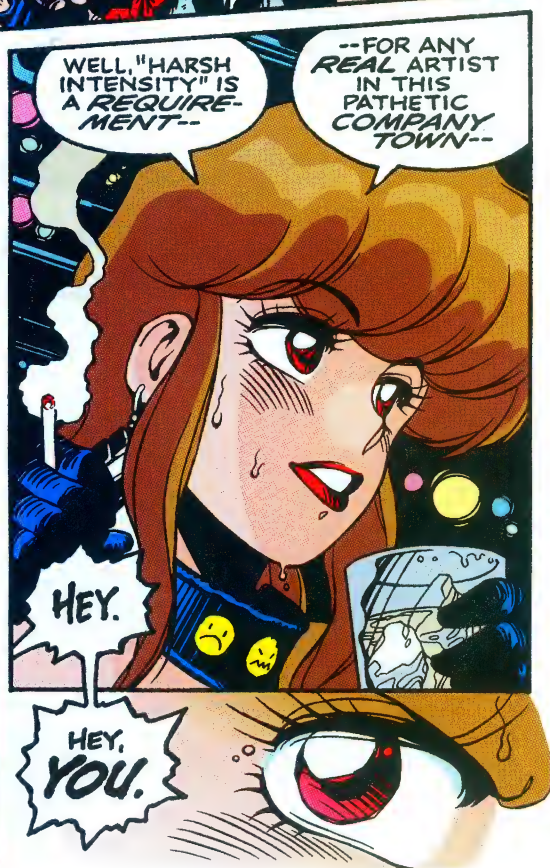
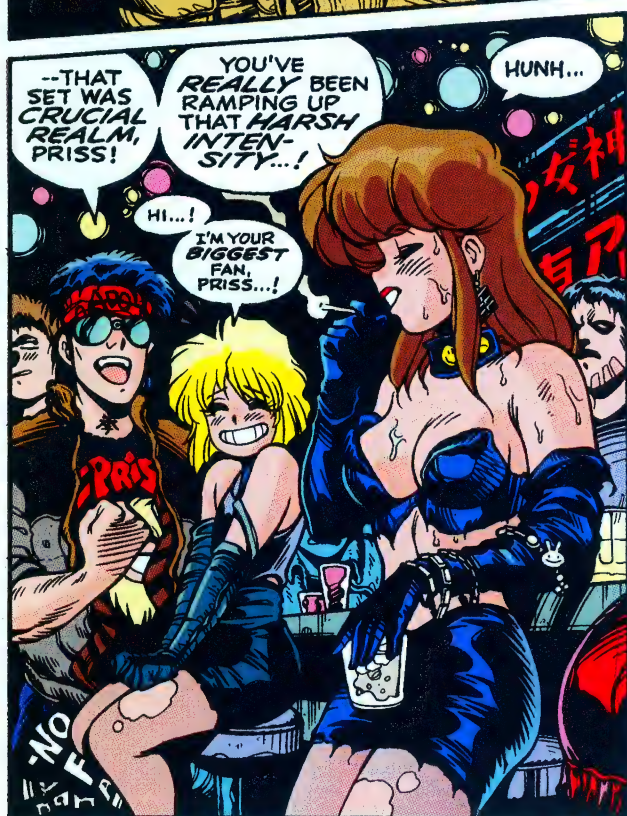
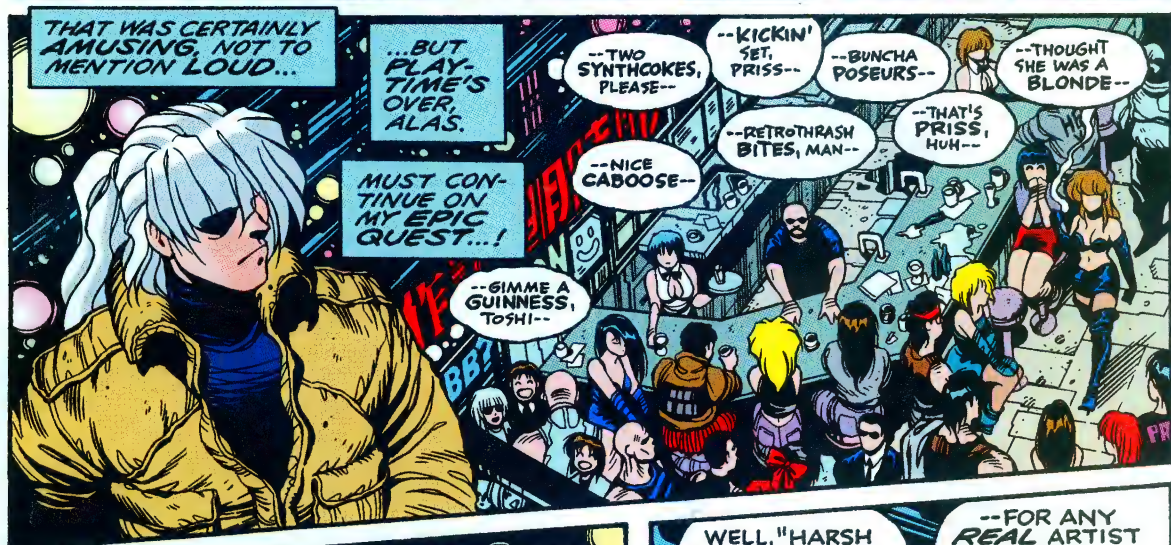
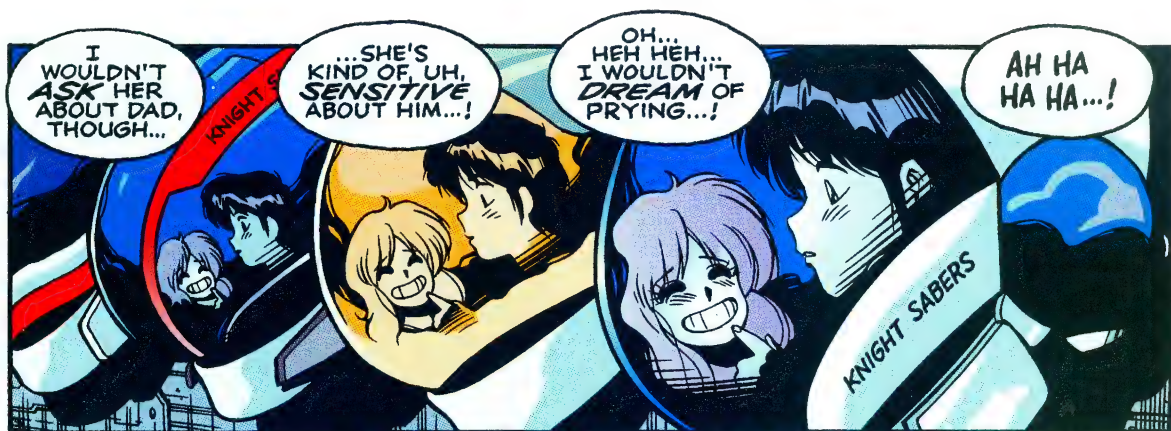
--ARE THE ORIGINS OF THE
VIGILANTES' UNPRECEDENT-
ED *POWERED ARMOR*.

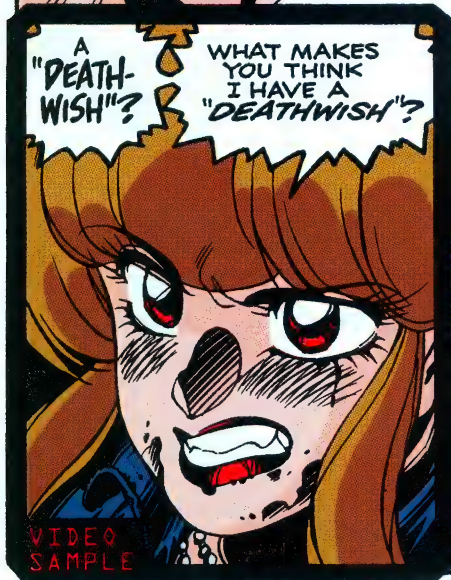
VIDEO SAMPLE

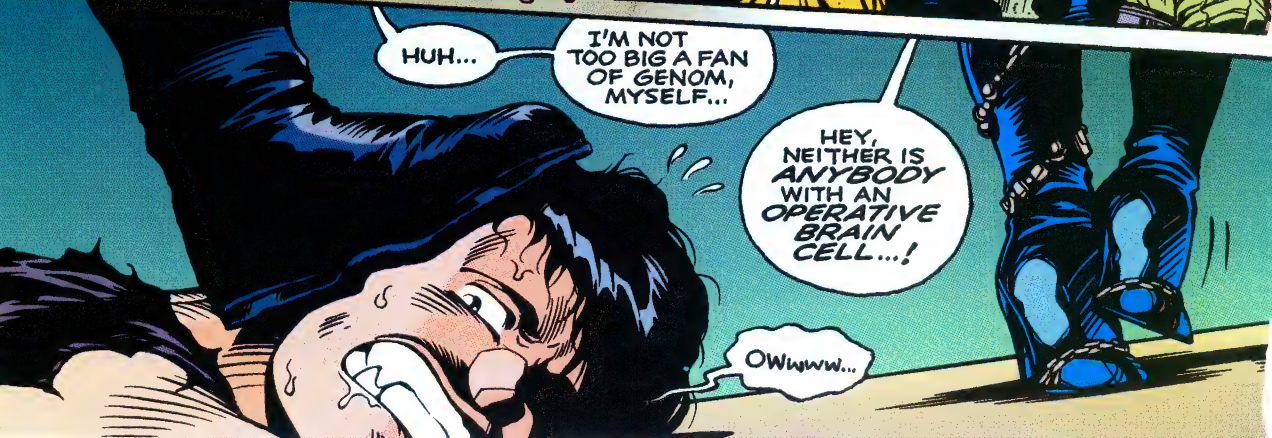
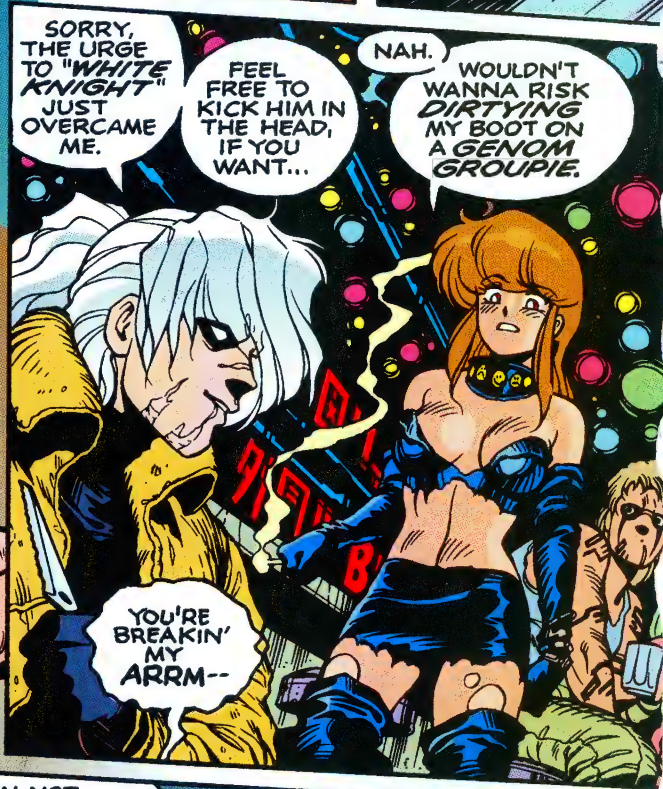
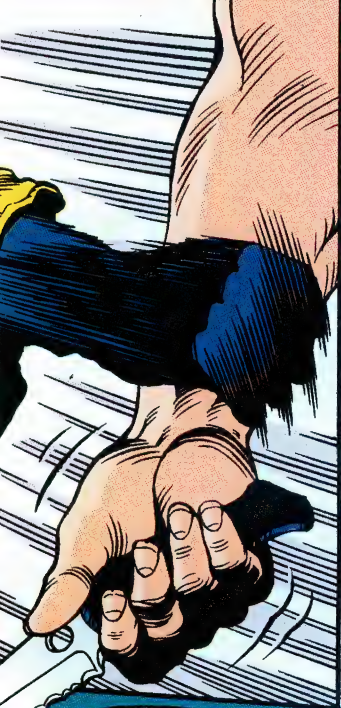
NUMEROUS
CONSPIRACY
THEORIES HAVE
ARISEN TO
EXPLAIN THE
PRESENCE OF
THE "KNIGHT
SABERS"--

--AND WHY
THEY HOLD
SUCH AN
OBVIOUS
GRUDGE
AGAINST
GENOM--









SHOULDN'T
PULL KNIVES
ON PEOPLE IN
MINISKIRTS,
ACE.

IT'S JUST
NOT DONE,
SEE?

SORRY,
THE URGE
TO "WHITE
KNIGHT"
JUST
OVERCAME
ME.

FEEL
FREE TO
KICK HIM
IN THE HEAD,
IF YOU
WANT...

NAH.
WOULDN'T
WANNA RISK
DIRTYING
MY BOOT ON
A GENOM
GROUPE.

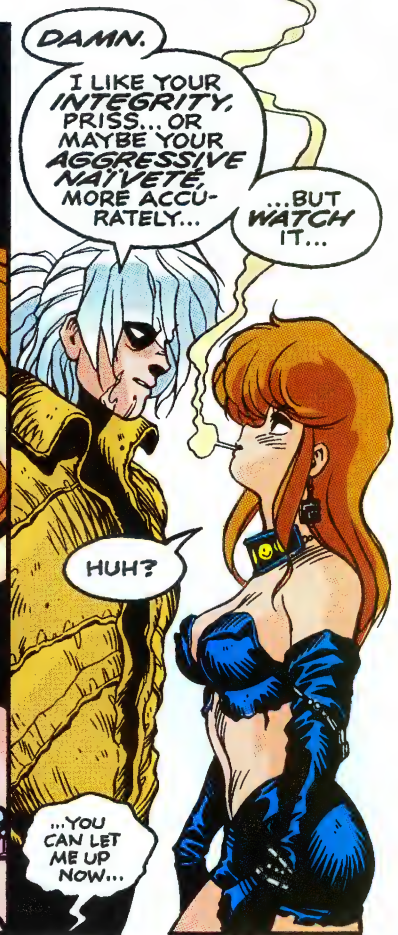
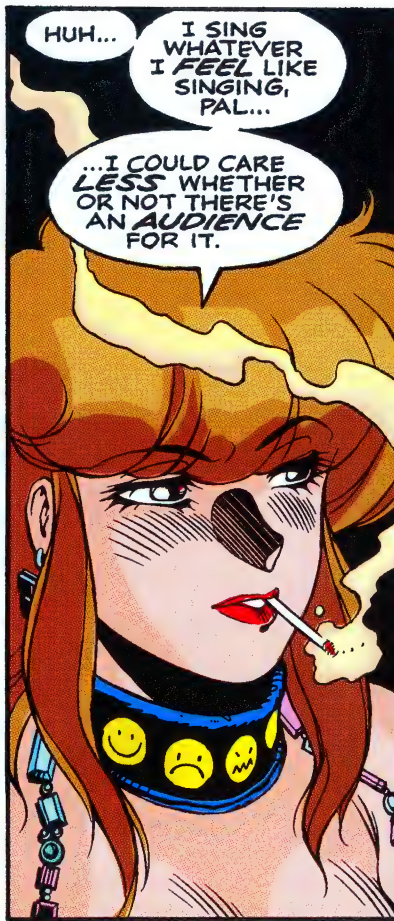
YOU'RE
BREAKIN'
MY
ARRM--

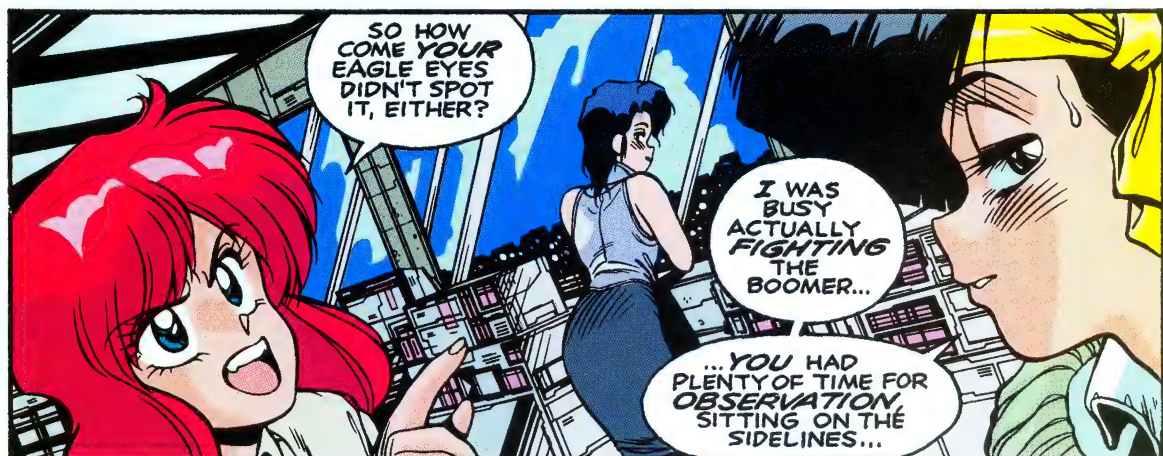
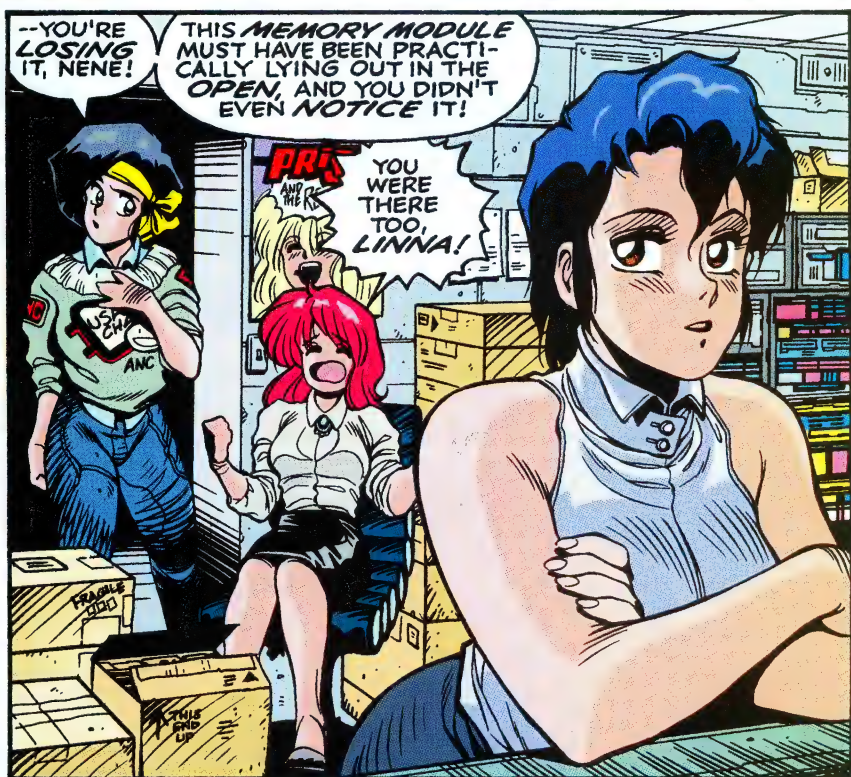
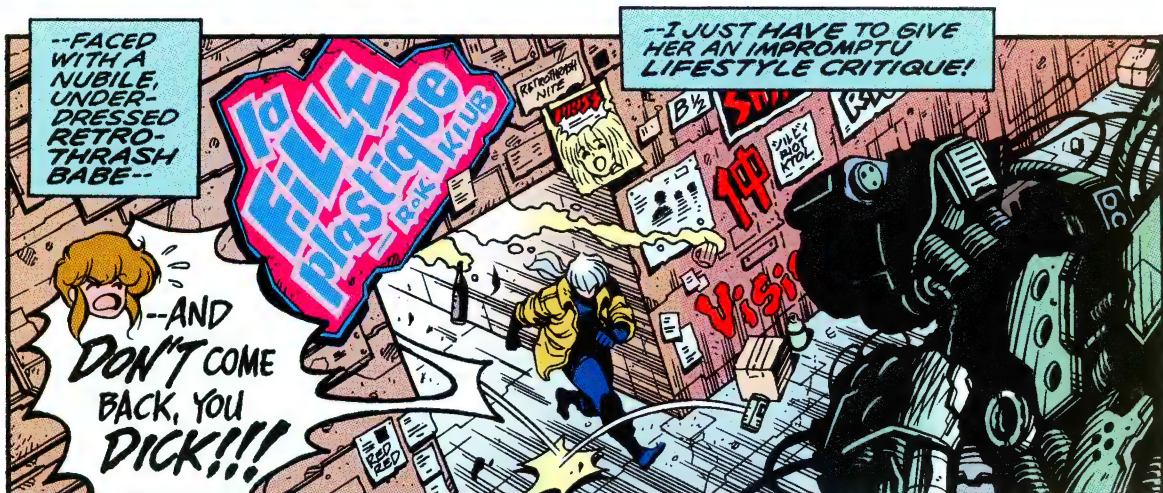
HUH...

I'M NOT
TOO BIG A FAN
OF GENOM,
MYSELF...

HEY,
NEITHER IS
ANYBODY
WITH AN
OPERATIVE
BRAIN
CELL...!

OWWWW...



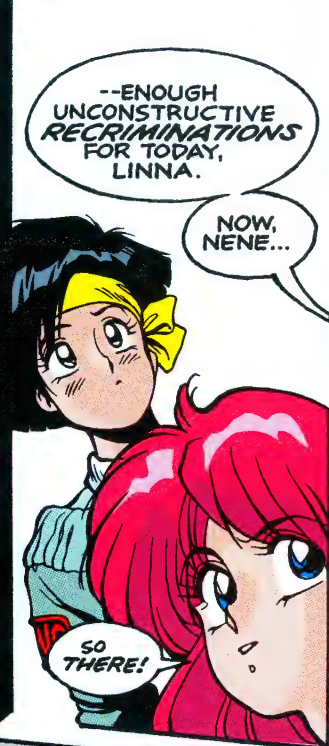




HA!

I
CONTRIBUTE
TO THE KNIGHT
SABERS WITH
MY GOOD
LOOKS AND
AMAZING
BRAIN!

VIDEO
SAMPLE



--ENOUGH
UNCONSTRUCTIVE
RECRIMINATIONS
FOR TODAY,
LINNA.

NOW,
NENE...

SO
THERE!



...AS
SOON AS YOU
CAN MANAGE
IT...

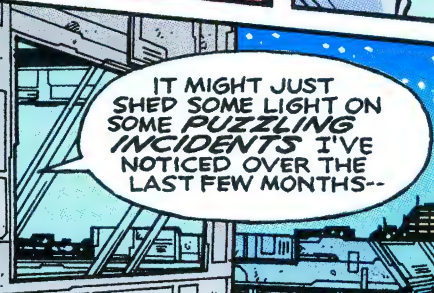
...I'LL NEED
TO SEE A COPY OF
THE ADPOLICE'S
ANALYSIS OF
THIS MODULE'S
CONTENTS.



NO
PROBLEM,
SYLIA!

I CAN
DO
THAT!

SNORTS



IT MIGHT JUST
SHED SOME LIGHT ON
SOME PUZZLING
INCIDENTS I'VE
NOTICED OVER THE
LAST FEW MONTHS--



DAMN IT--



--ANOTHER
SEIZURE
STARTING,
SO SOON
AFTER THE
LAST ONE--!

TOO
SOON--



--BUT
IT IS IRONIC,
WHEN YOU
CONSIDER HOW
VASHNEVSKAYA
ACQUIRED HIS
PARTICULAR CON-
DITION--!

--GOT TO GET
AWAY FROM ANY
POTENTIAL
VICTIMS--

HE UNDERWENT
A MASSIVE
**NEUROLOGICAL
ALTERATION**,
RATHER LIKE OUR
CREATION, IN
A WAY...

...AND
LIKE US, HE
CERTAINLY
WASN'T GIVEN,
A **CHOICE**
IN THE
MATTER...

HAHH

HAHH

--NICE, DESERTED
ALLEYWAY--

--AS GOOD
A PLACE
AS ANY--

--TO **MUTILATE**
MYSELF--

MY, THAT SOUNDS
ALMOST LIKE
SYMPATHY,
OR EVEN
GUILT!

THAT'S
RATHER
SURPRIS-
ING...

..GIVEN THAT
OUR **MENTAL
ARCHITECTURES**
AREN'T SET UP
FOR SUCH--

KINDLY
RESERVE YOUR
CONDESCENSION
FOR THE ORGANICS,
PLEASE...

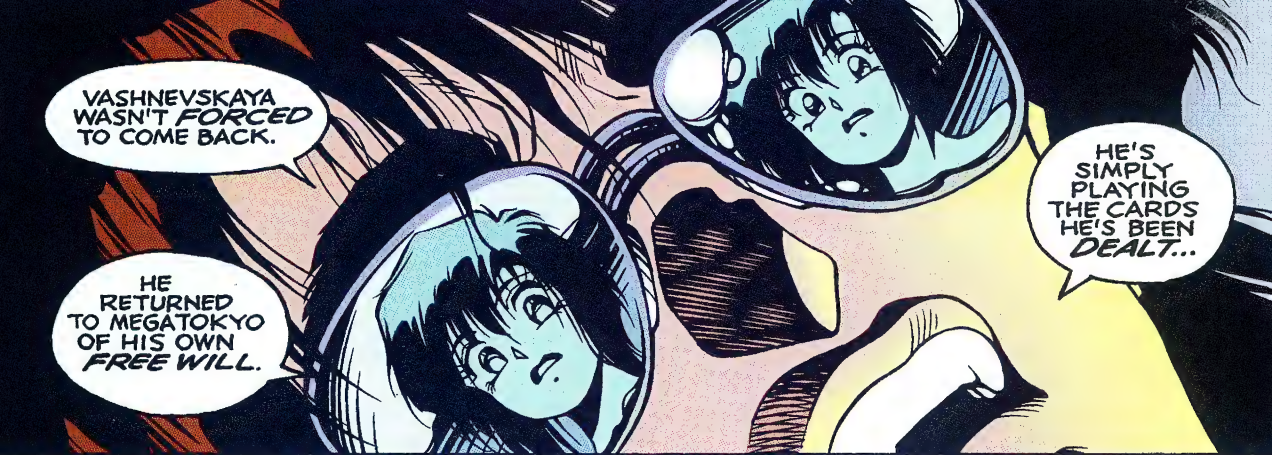
--WOULDN'T MIND THE
HALLUCINATIONS
SO MUCH--

--IF THEY WERE
VISIONS OF
SOMETHING
PLEASANT--!

--LIKE, SAY, SCANTILY
CLAD **RETROTHRASH**
SINGERS--

HEY--!

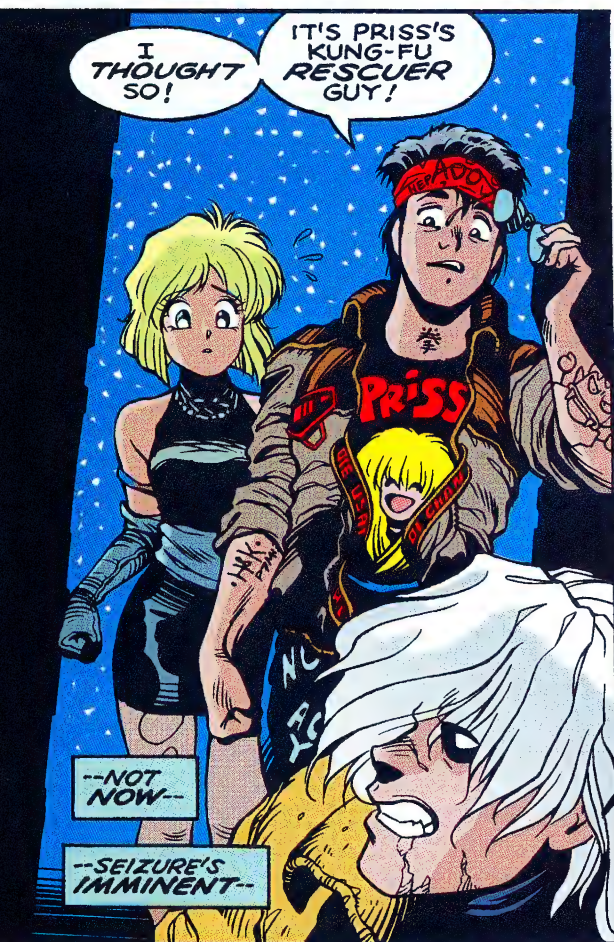
YOU
OKAY,
DUDE?



VASHNEVSKAYA
WASN'T FORCED
TO COME BACK.

HE
RETURNED
TO MEGATOKYO
OF HIS OWN
FREE WILL.

HE'S
SIMPLY
PLAYING
THE CARDS
HE'S BEEN
DEALT...

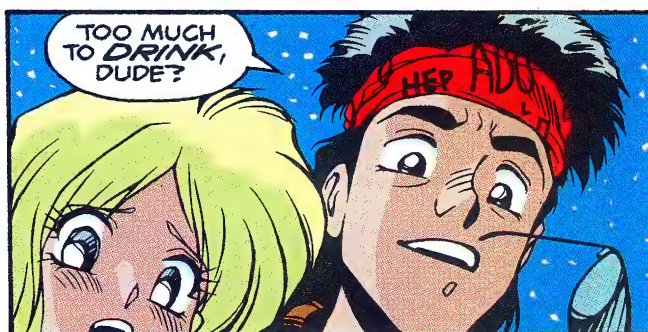


I
THOUGHT
SO!

IT'S PRISS'S
KUNG-FU
RESCUER
GUY!

--NOT
NOW--

--SEIZURE'S
IMMINENT--



TOO MUCH
TO DRINK,
DUDE?

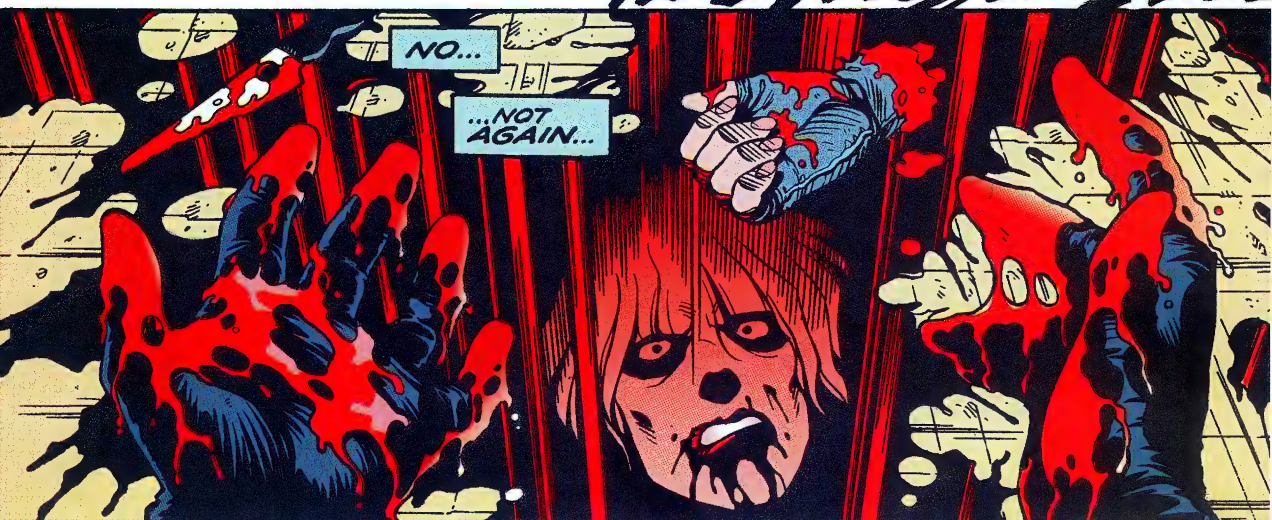


PLEASE--!

GET
AWAY--!

GET--

AWAY

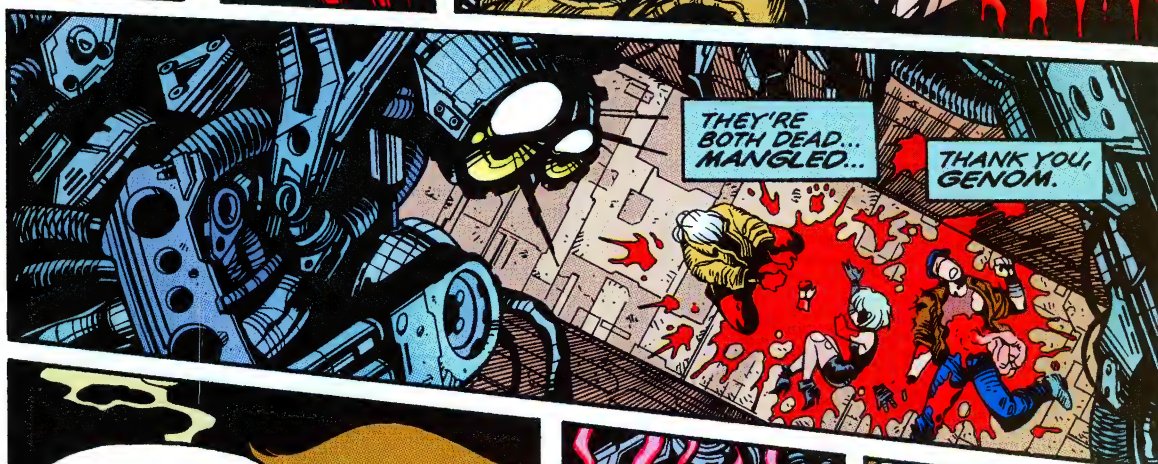
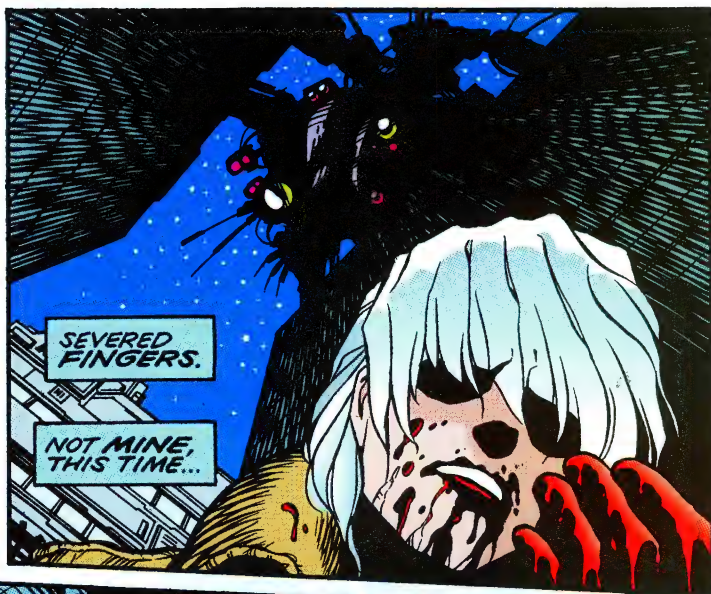


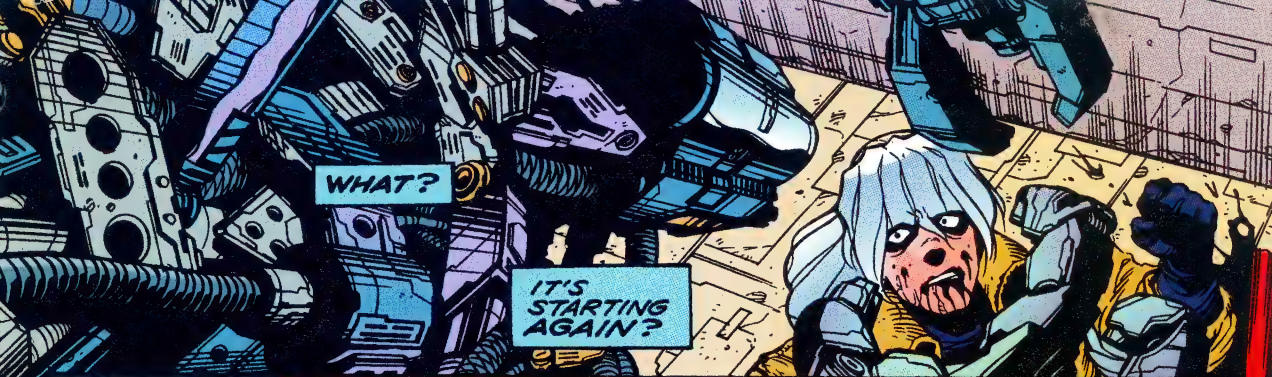
NO...

...NOT
AGAIN...

SOME-
THING
IN MY
MOUTH--?

GUGHK!
Ptoo=



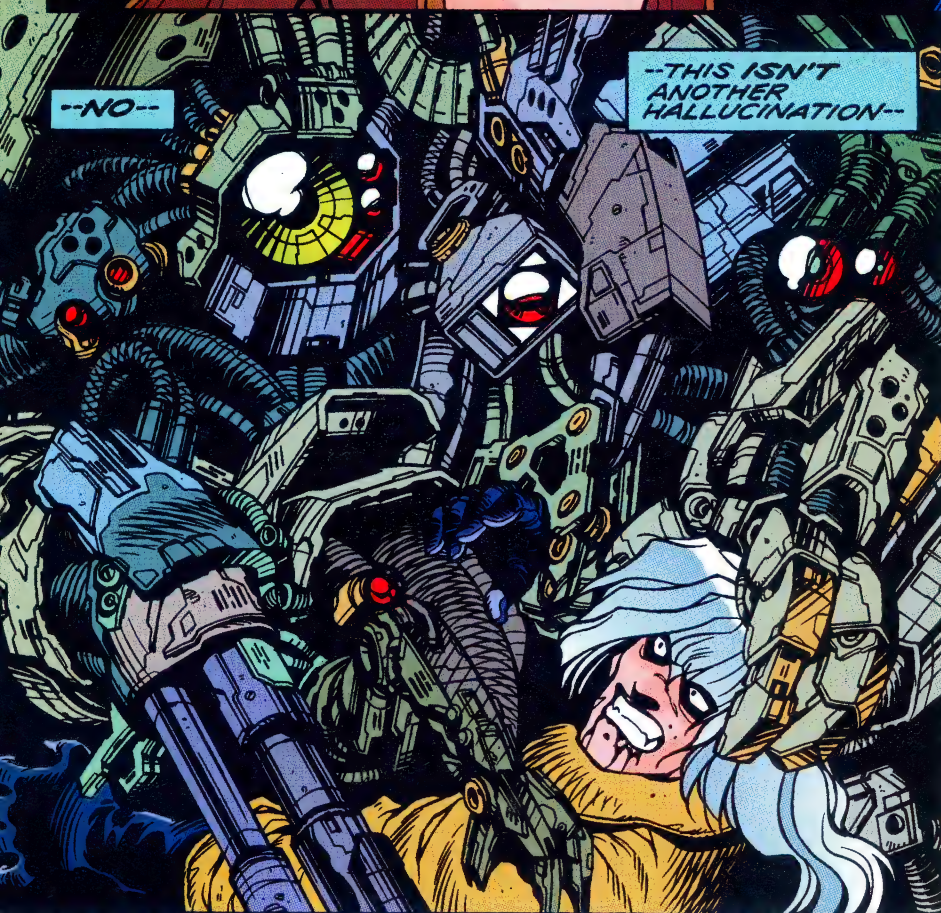


WHAT?

IT'S
STARTING
AGAIN?

MESSING WITH
GENOM'S BAD
FOR YOUR
HEALTH,
IS IT?

LIKE
HE
KNOWS
ANYTHING
ABOUT
IT!



--NO--

--THIS ISN'T
ANOTHER
HALLUCINATION--



--THIS
IS
REAL--

UCHHKK

VRRR

KCHAK



WELL,
MR. "WHITE
KNIGHT"--

--HERE'S
TO YOUR
HEALTH--!

CHAPTER THREE

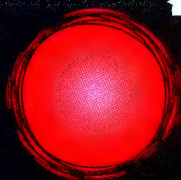




MY HEAD HURTS.

I CAN'T SEE A DAMNED THING.

HEY.



A BOOMER
IS CROONING
IN MY EAR.



HEY,
PAL...

I MUST BE
IN HELL.

...DO ME A
FAVOR,
HUH?

PLIK

VREE

KILL
ME.

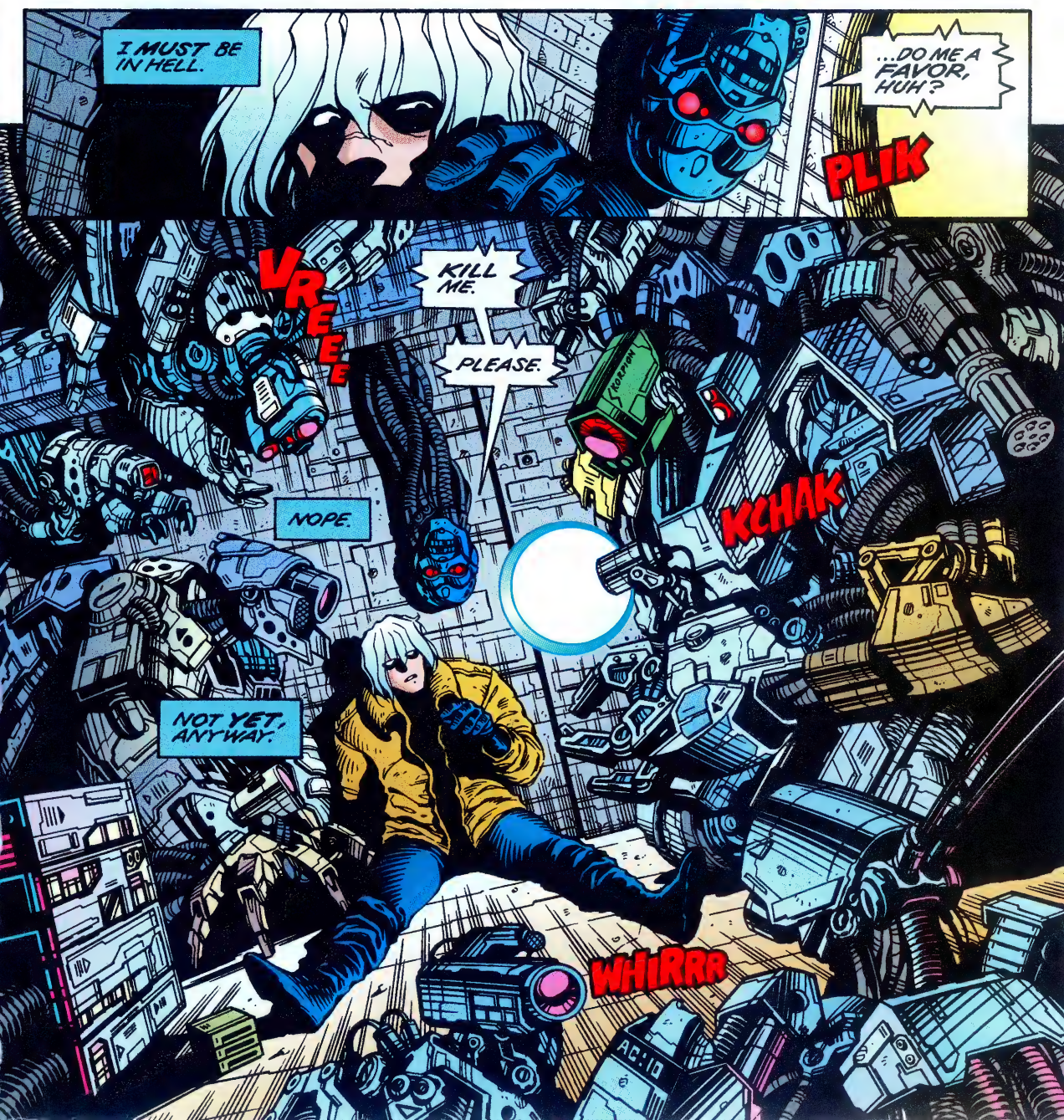
PLEASE.

NOPE.

NOT YET,
ANYWAY.

KCHAK

WHIRRA



THESE FRIGGIN' MECHS MUST HAVE A WEAKNESS FOR ORGANICS, HUH?

I'M NOT HAVING A PRESEIZURE HALLUCINATION, THIS TIME...

THESE MACHINES, THE SKORPION'S IMPROVISED SUBUNIT MECHS, ARE REAL, NOT IMAGINARY.

THEY HAVEN'T CANNIBALIZED YOU FOR PARTS YET, I NOTICE.

HEY--!

THE MECHS LOOK RAGGED, PIECED TOGETHER, BARELY FUNCTIONAL...

...LIKE ME...

...BUT EVEN AFTER THREE YEARS...

HOLD ON!

DO THESE THINGS ACTUALLY KNOW YOU?

...I CAN STILL RECOGNIZE PARTS OF THE SKORPION'S ORIGINAL FRAME.

--TO INTRODUCE THE FINAL MEMBER OF YOUR TEAM--

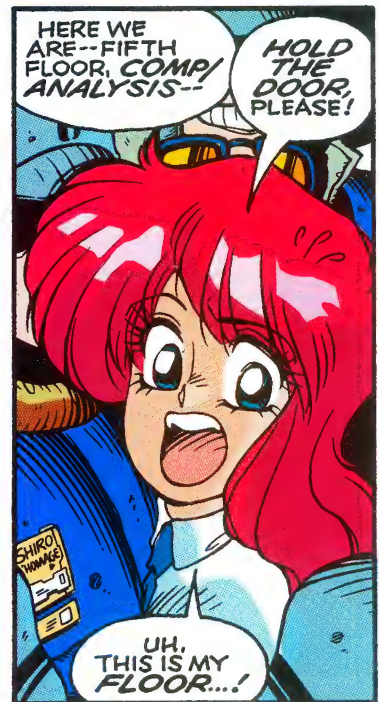
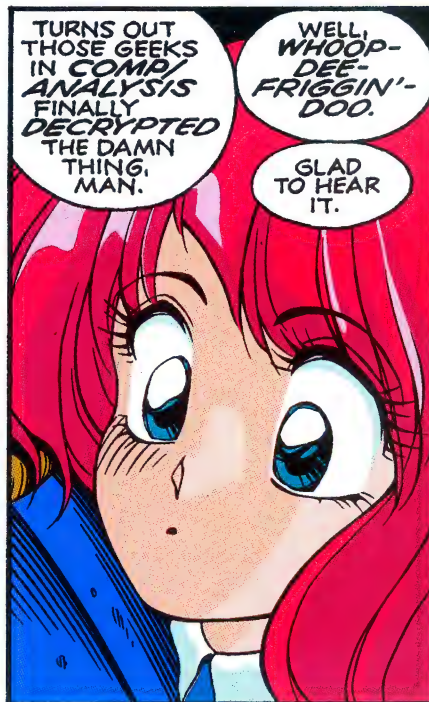
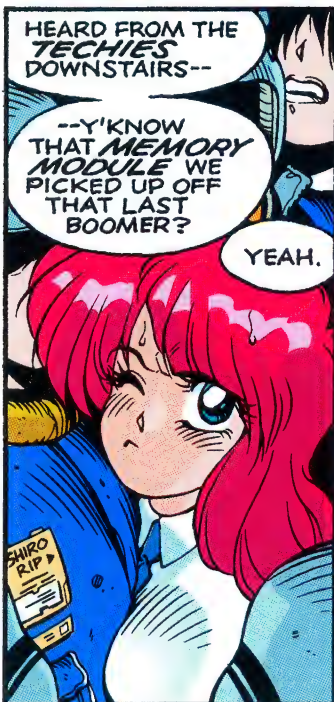
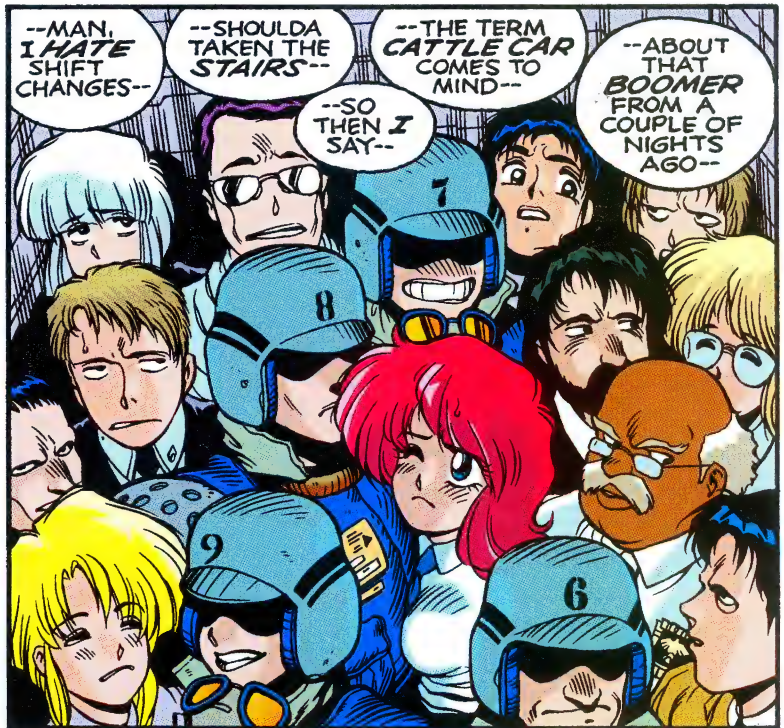
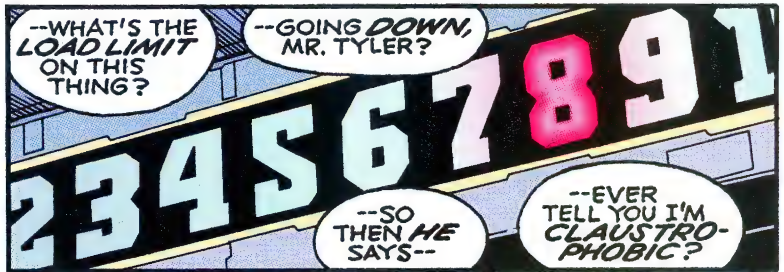
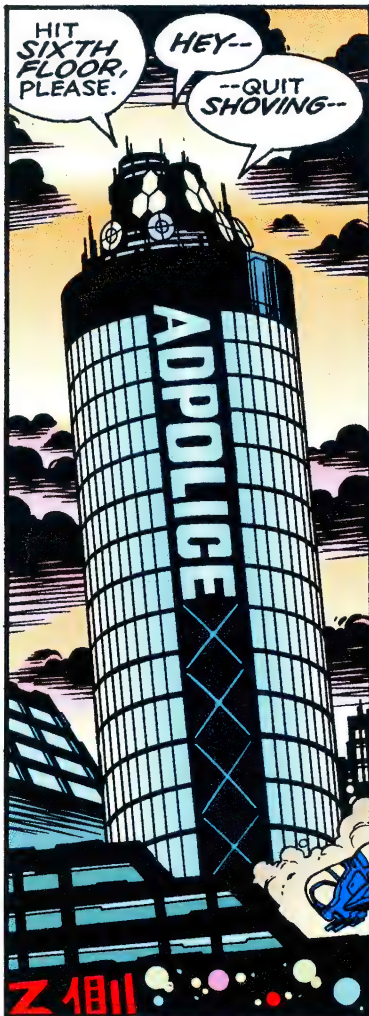
--THE PRIDE AND JOY OF VÖERUNG-MIKOYAN INTERESSENGE-MEINSCHAFT'S ADVANCED MECHATRONICS DIVISION--


HEY, VASHNEVSKAYA

--THE SKORPION 19 ANTHOLOGY INTELLIGENCE SEMI-AUTONOMOUS SELF-REPLICATING RECON/COMBAT MECHANIZED UNIT--

VREE

...YOU NEVER SAID WE'D BE WORKING WITH A MECH...!





THE SKORPION 19 WAS THE LAST GASP OF FINE EUROPEAN MECHATRONICS, BEFORE GENOM'S BOOMER TECHNOLOGY FINALLY DROVE THE EUROS OUT OF THE FIELD.

IT WAS DESIGNED AS AN ANTHOLOGY INTELLIGENCE, ABLE TO DISPERSE ITS LIMITED AWARENESS THOUGH A JURY-RIGGED NETWORK OF SUBUNIT MECHS AND COMPUTERS.

COMPARED TO THE HUMAN-DERIVED COMPLEXITY OF GENOM'S BOOMERS, THE SKORPION IS CRUDE AND PATHETIC, A BARELY COGNITIVE HEAP OF OBSOLETE MACHINERY.

BUT IT'S ALMOST UNBEATABLE AT THE FEW SPECIALIZED TASKS IT WAS BUILT TO HANDLE.

A MECHANICAL IDIOT SAVANT, YOU MIGHT SAY.

--VASHNEVSKAYA, YOUR COMLINK IMPLANT SHOULD BE ABLE TO RECEIVE THE SKORPION'S ENCRYPTED TRANSMISSIONS NOW.

CAN YOU HEAR IT?

THE SKORPION COMMUNICATES VIA "AUDIO SAMPLES" TAKEN FROM VARIOUS MEDIA SOURCES.

THIS MIGHT BE A BIT JARRING, AT FIRST...

NAH, NOT REALLY.

IT JUST SOUNDS LIKE REALLY PRETENTIOUS AUDIO-FORMAT PERFORMANCE ART...

...DON'T KNOW I'M LOSING?

THREE YEARS AGO, FEELING THE ECONOMIC BITE FROM GENOM, A CON-SORTIUM OF AILING EUROPEAN COR-PORATIONS HIRED MY EXTRACTION TEAM.

C'MON, MAN...

WE CAME TO MEGATOKYO, THE VERY LION'S DEN, TO SNAG ONE OF GENOM'S "INTELLECTUAL ASSETS."

...HAVE SOME SYMPATHY, HUH? I'M NOT LIKE THESE IDIOT MECHS...

...I'M A SENTIENT BEING LIKE YOU, DAMN IT...

ALAS, SOMEONE HAD LEAKED WORD OF OUR DARING MISSION TO OUR TARGET.

GENOM, WARNED OF OUR EVIL IN-TENT, LAUNCHED A PREEMPTIVE STRIKE.

COMBAT BOOMERS, SIMILAR TO MY DECAPITATED FRIEND HERE, AMBUSHED US IN TOKYO BAY.

THE HUMAN MEMBERS OF THE TEAM FACED CERTAIN DEATH.

BUT THE SKORPION HAD ALREADY BEEN SHIPPED TO MEGA-TOKYO, WEEKS AHEAD OF OUR ARRIVAL.

HOPING FOR SOME POSTHUMOUS REVENGE, I STARTED TO TRANSMIT THE SKORPION'S ACTI-VATION CODE.

MAYBE THE MECH COULD DO SOME DAMAGE TO GENOM ON ITS OWN.

BUT BEFORE
I COULD
"LET SLIP
THE DOGS
OF WAR"...

--GENOM
INTERRUPTED
ME WITH A
TRANSMISSION
OF ITS OWN--

HEY,
NENE...

MAN, YOU GUYS
ARE JUST TOO
PAROCHIAL.

YOU GOTTA CULTIVATE
AN APPRECIATION OF THE
PROGRAMMING TECH-
NIQUES OF OTHER
CULTURES, SEE?

GIVE IT
A REST,
SIMMONS...

...WHAT'CHA
DOING DOWN
HERE, IN
THE LAND OF
COMPUTER
GEEKS...?

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU COULDN'T
FIGURE OUT THIS
MODULE'S CODING
STRUCTURE...

COMP/
ANALYSIS

IT'S AN OBVIOUS
VARIANT OF AN OLD
GERMAN PROGRAMMING
LANGUAGE THAT USED
TO BE ALL THE RAGE
IN EUROPEAN MECH
DESIGN.

SIMPLE
STUFF,
REALLY.

YEAH,
WELL,
WHAT'S
ON THE
DAMN
THING?

LOOKS LIKE A
WEIRD JUMBLE OF FILES
ON THE ORIGIN OF
BOOMER ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE...
ANCIENT HISTORY,
REALLY.

ANYWAY,
YOU GUYS CAN
CHECK IT OUT,
I'VE GOT IT
DOWNLOAD-
ING NOW.

JUST LET ME KNOW IF
YOU GET STYMIED
AGAIN BY SUCH
SIMPLE CRAP.

CLEARLY,
NO ONE
AROUND HERE
COMES CLOSE
TO MY LEVEL
OF SKILL...

THAT'S
WHAT YOU
THINK,
JERK....!

DISKTEK HR 120
HIGH-DENSITY
OPTICAL STORAGE
MEMORY MODULE

DISKTEK HR 120
HIGH-DENSITY
OPTICAL STORAGE
MEMORY MODULE

ONCE AGAIN,
I'M FACING
A SLAYERING
HORDE OF
COMBAT
BOOMERS.

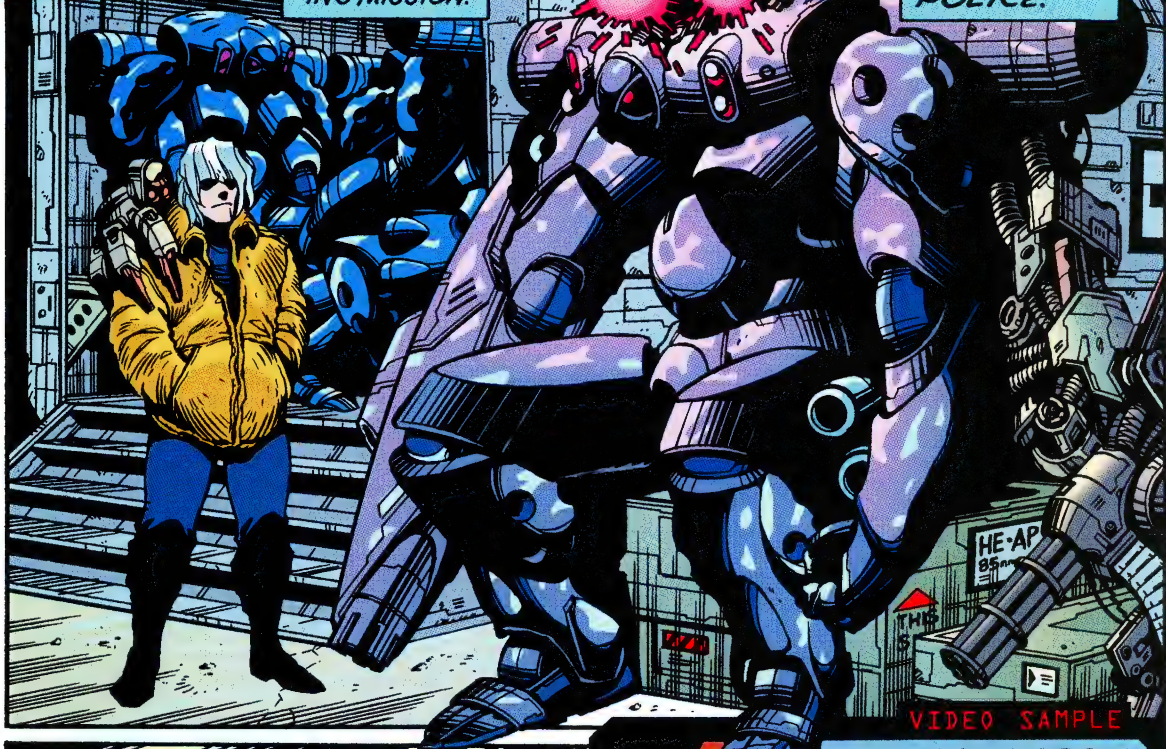
BUT THIS
TIME, THEY'LL
BE ON MY SIDE.

I HOPE.

TWO NIGHTS AGO,
THE SKORPION TELLS
ME, A HOSTILE
BOOMER RIPPED OFF
SOME VITAL
ELEMENT OF THE
MECH'S ANTHOLOGY
INTELLIGENCE.

SOME
MEMORY
MODULE,
STUFFED
WITH DATA
CRITICAL
TO OUR DAR-
ING MISSION.

EVENTUALLY
THE MODULE
ENDED UP IN
THE HANDS OF
MEGATOKYO'S
HAPLESS
ADVANCED
POLICE.

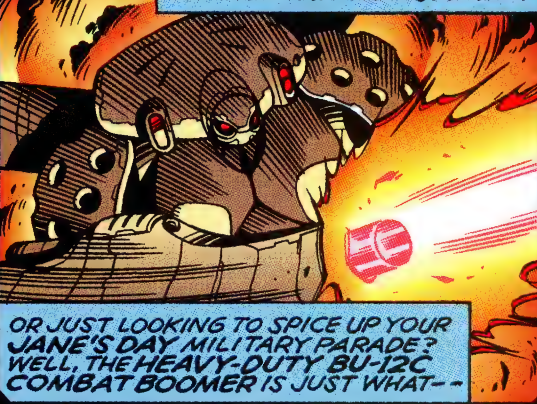


VIDEO SAMPLE

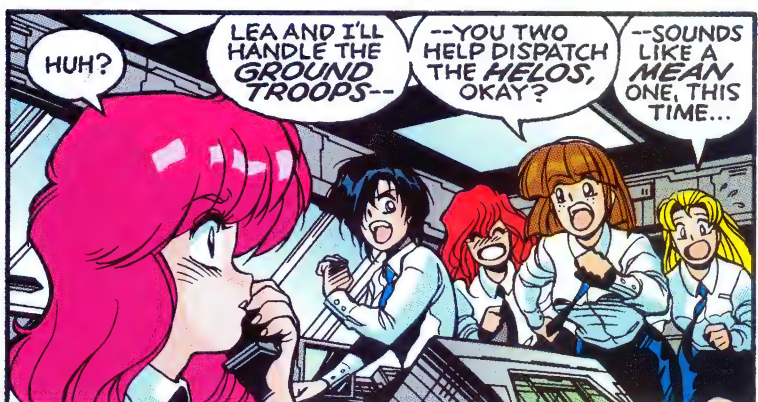
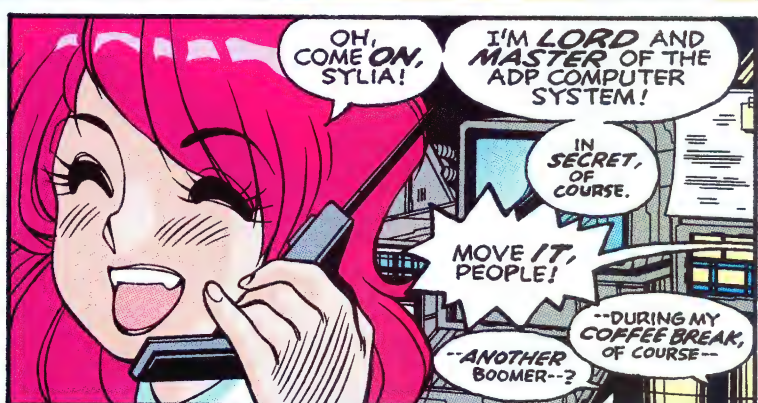
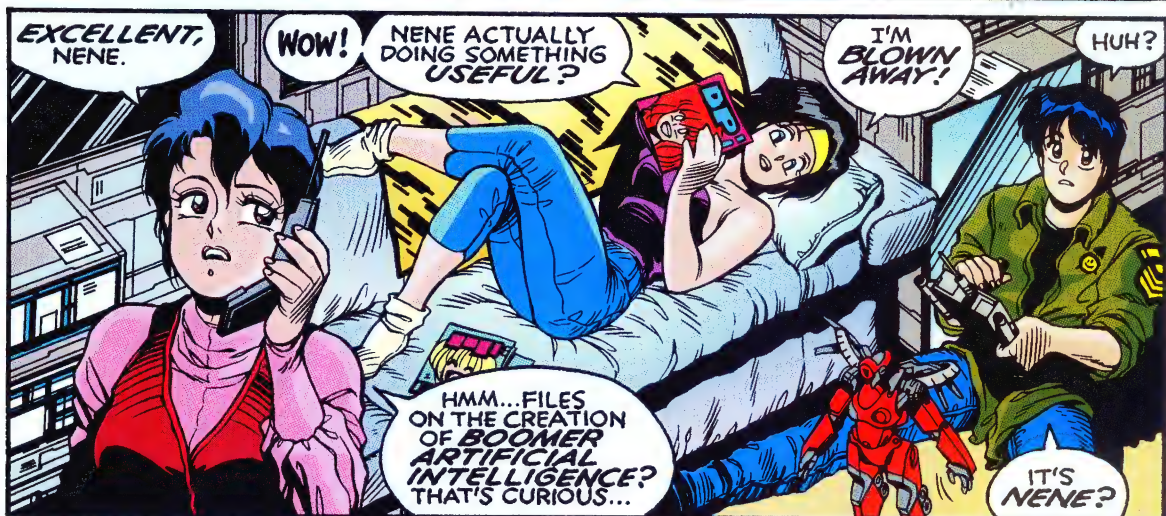
NOW WE'RE PRES-
SING A STOLEN
COMBAT BOOMER
INTO SERVICE TO
HELP RECOVER IT.

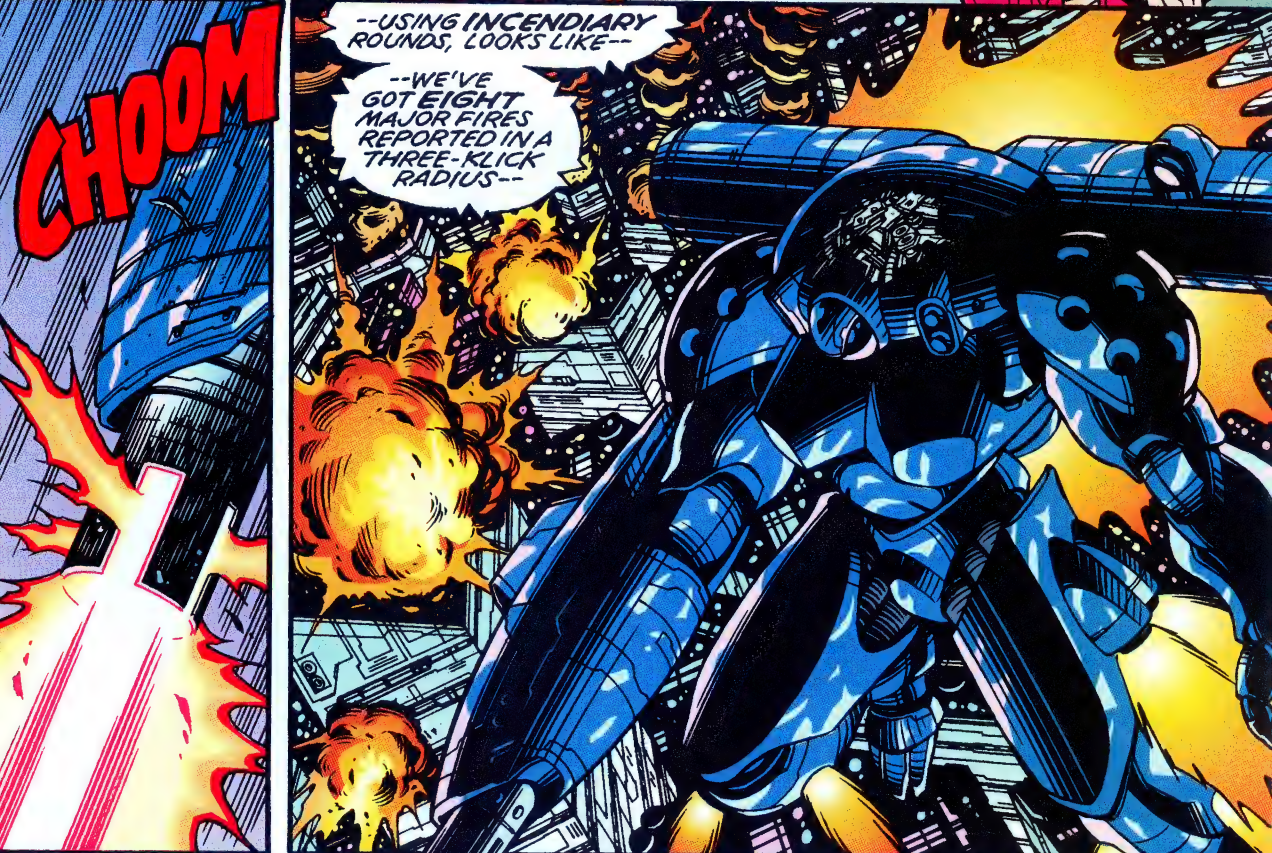
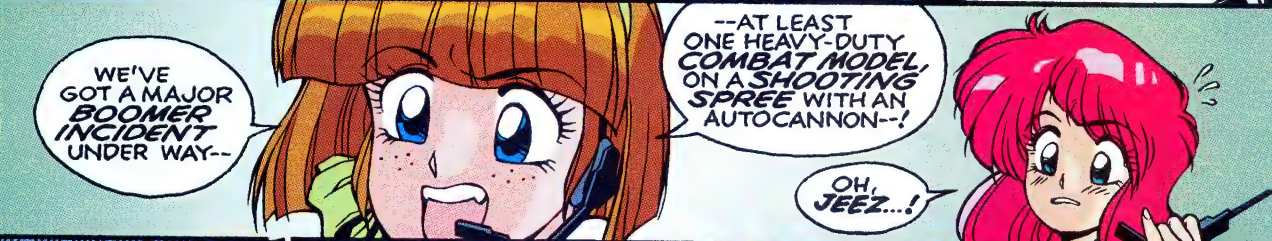
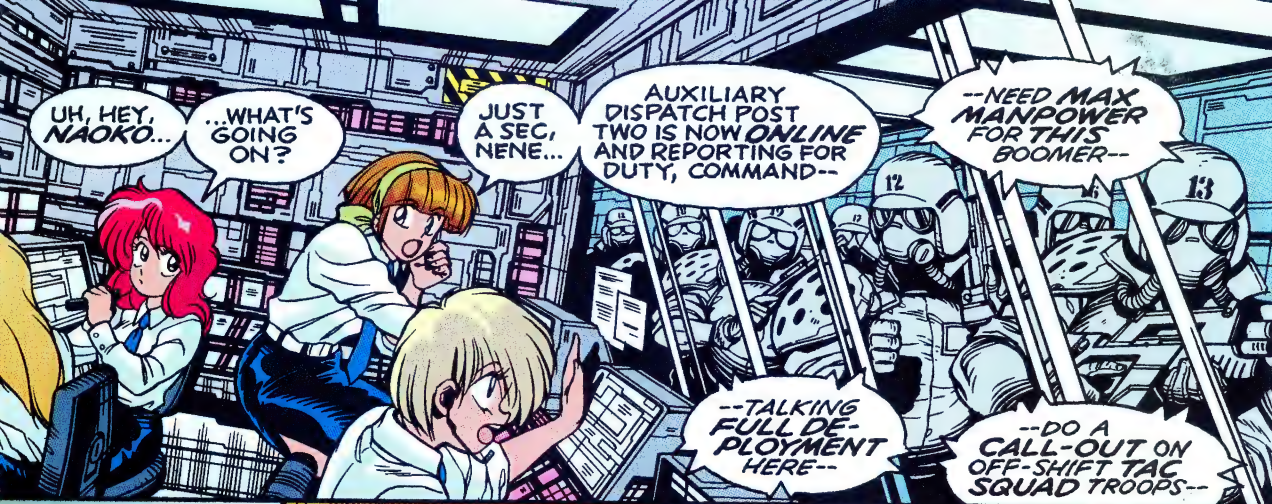
NOTHING'S
MORE
PLEASINGLY
IRONIC
THAN USING
A GENOM
PRODUCT
AGAINST ITS
MAKERS...

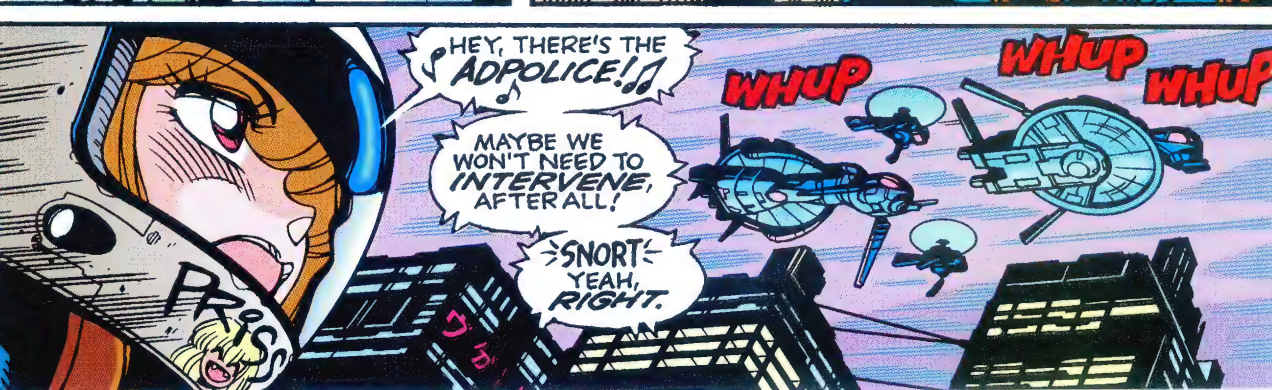
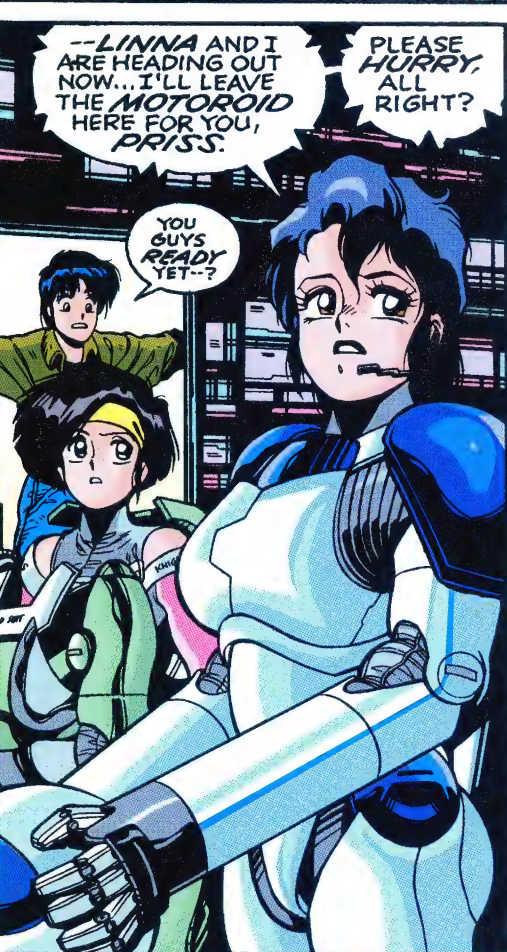
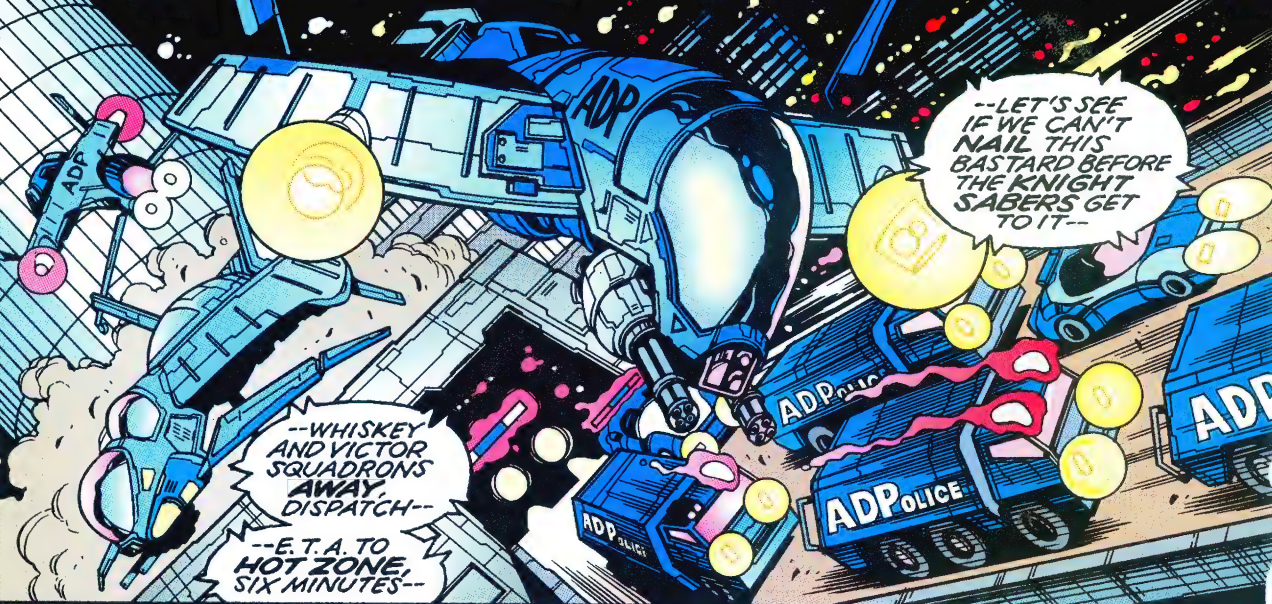
--PUTTING DOWN A DO-
MESTIC INSURGENCY?
PLANNING SOME TERRI-
TORIAL EXPANSION BY FORCE?



OR JUST LOOKING TO SPICE UP YOUR
JANE'S DAY MILITARY PARADE?
WELL, THE HEAVY-DUTY BU-12C
COMBAT BOOMER IS JUST WHAT--







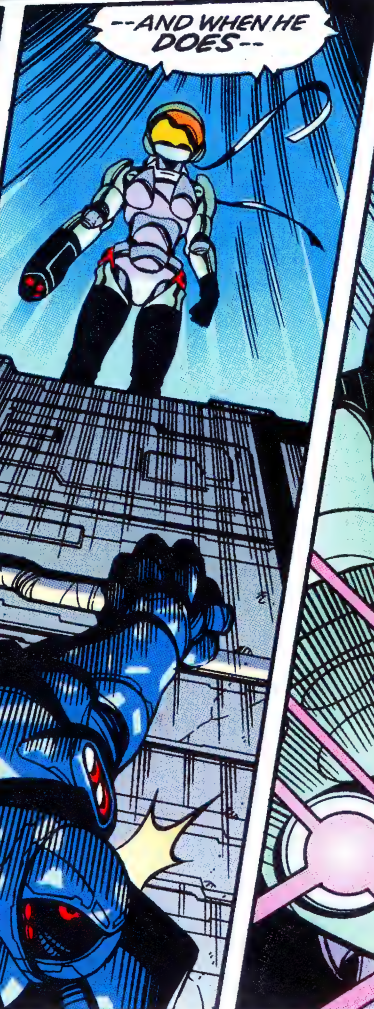
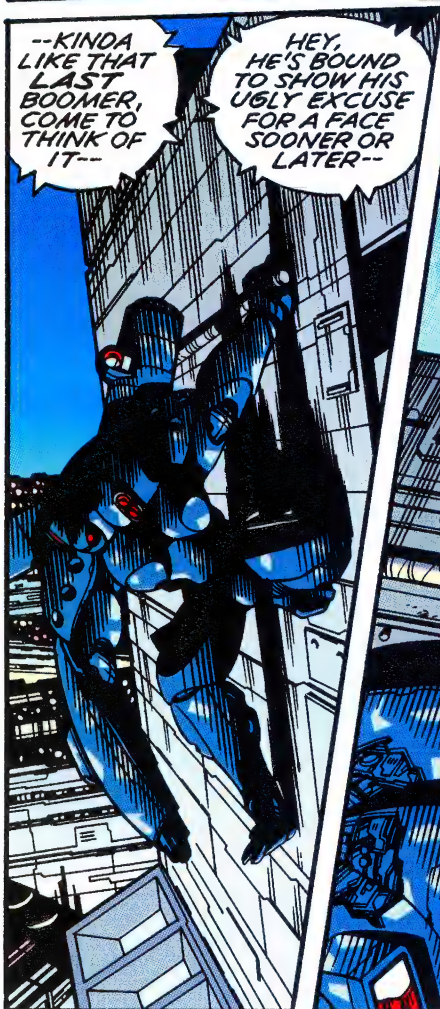
VIDEO SAMPLE

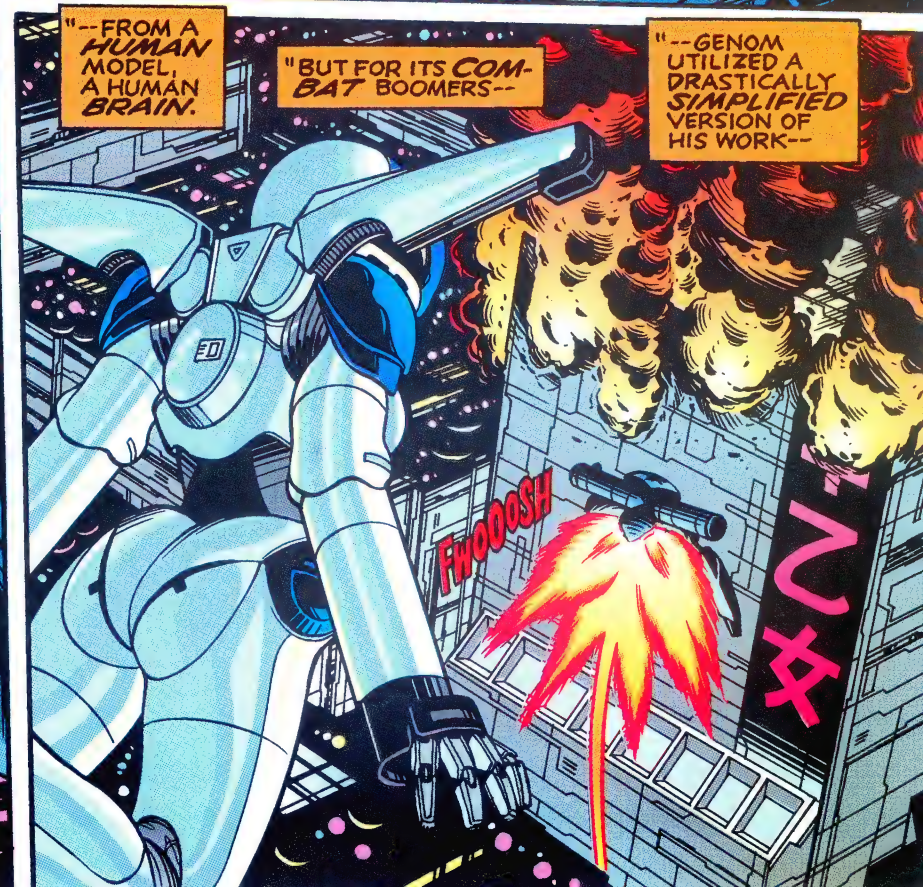


EDITORIAL

--THE RECORD OF THE ADPOLICE SHOWS THE FOLLY OF A PURELY REACTIVE APPROACH TO THE BOOMER PROBLEM.

CLEARLY, A MORE THOUGHTFUL AND PREVENTIVE RESPONSE IS CALLED FOR--



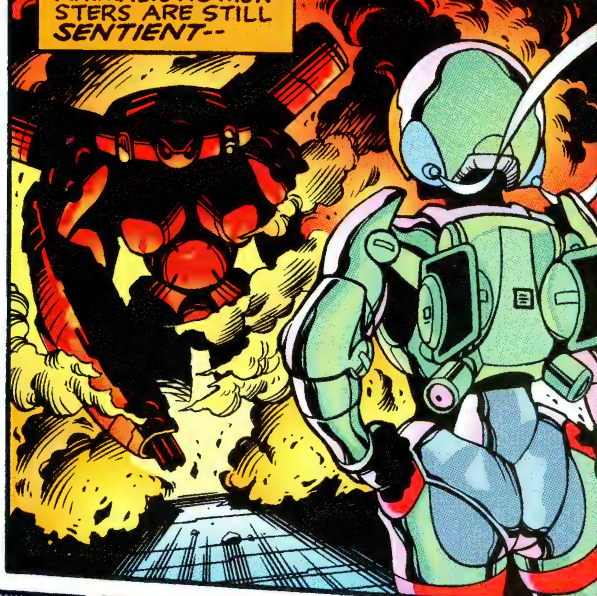
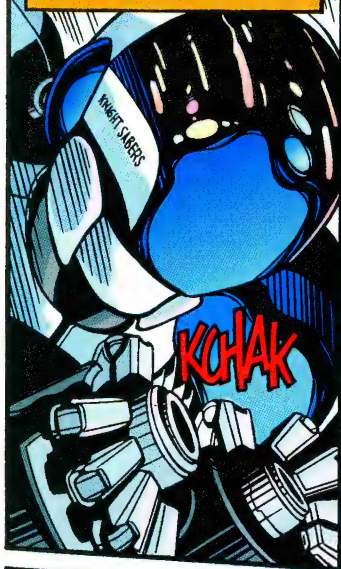


"--FAR MORE *UNSTABLE*, BUT MUCH CHEAPER TO *MASS PRODUCE*."

"NONETHELESS, EVEN *THESE* BELLIGERENT, ANIMALISTIC MONSTERS ARE STILL *SENTIENT*--"

"--STILL *HUMAN*, IN SOME DE-GRADED SENSE."

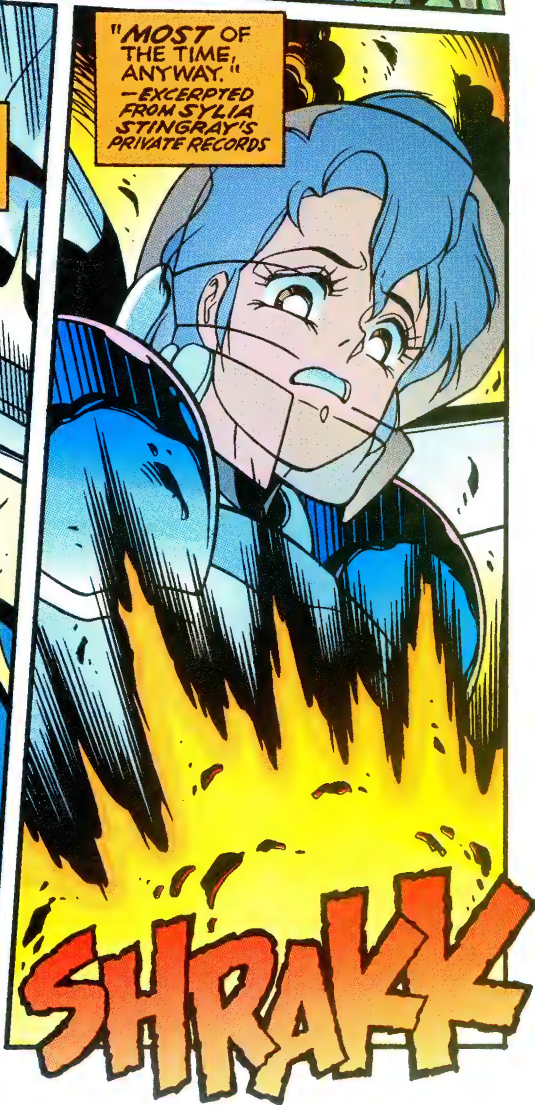
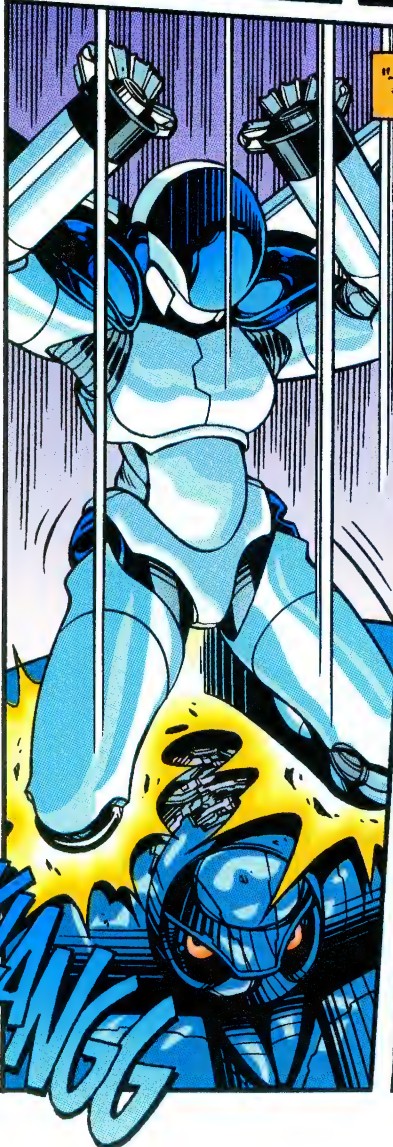
"SO WHEN WE MUST *STOP* ONE OF *THESE* TWISTED, PATHETIC CREATURES--"

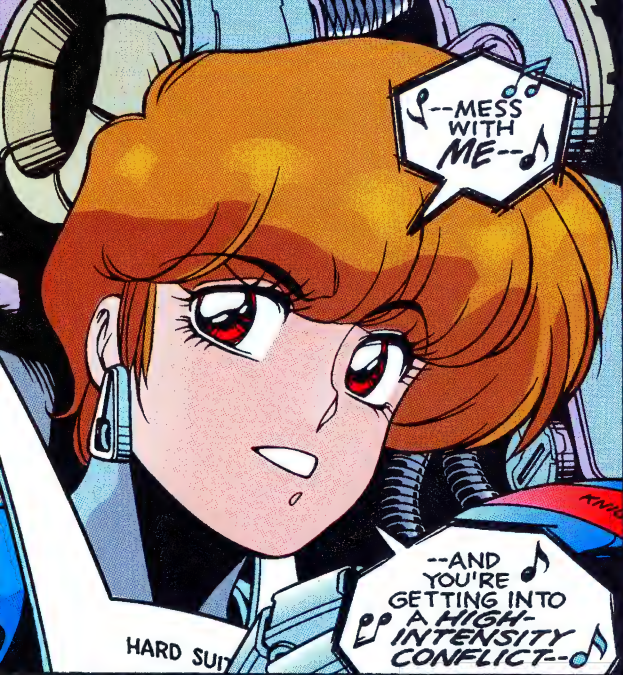


"--I TRY TO MAKE THEIR *END*--"

"--AS *QUICK* AND AS *MERCIFUL* AS POSSIBLE."

"*MOST* OF THE TIME, ANYWAY."
--EXCERPTED FROM SYLIA STINGRAY'S PRIVATE RECORDS

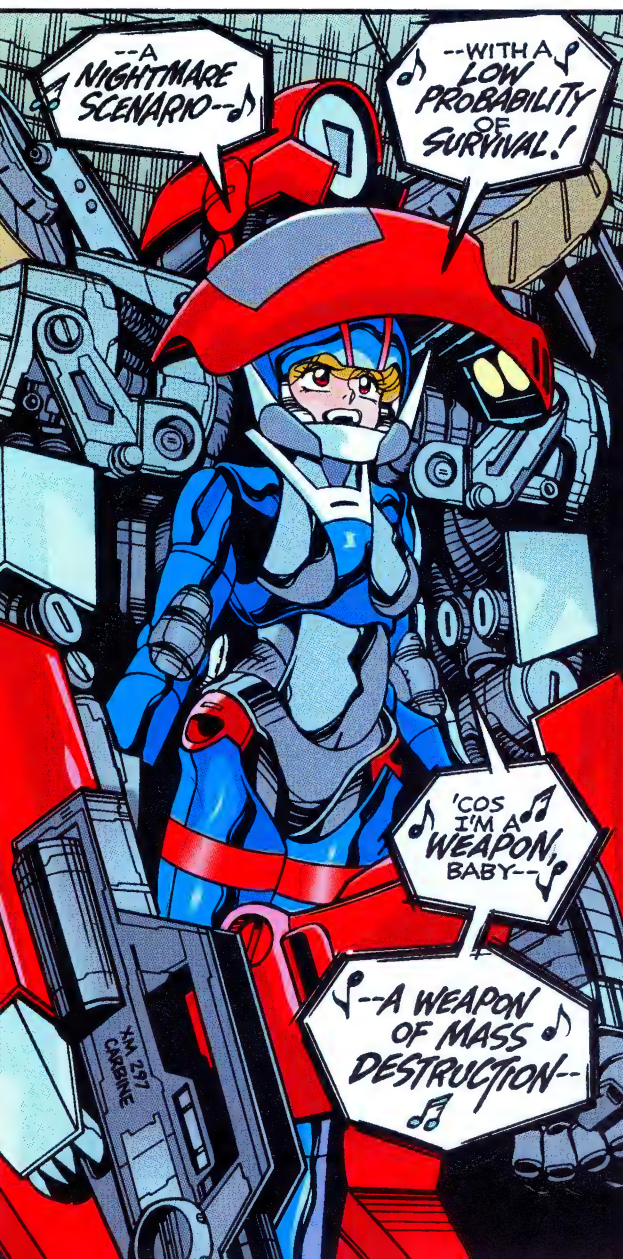




--MESS WITH ME--

HARD SUIT

--AND YOU'RE GETTING INTO A HIGH-INTENSITY CONFLICT--

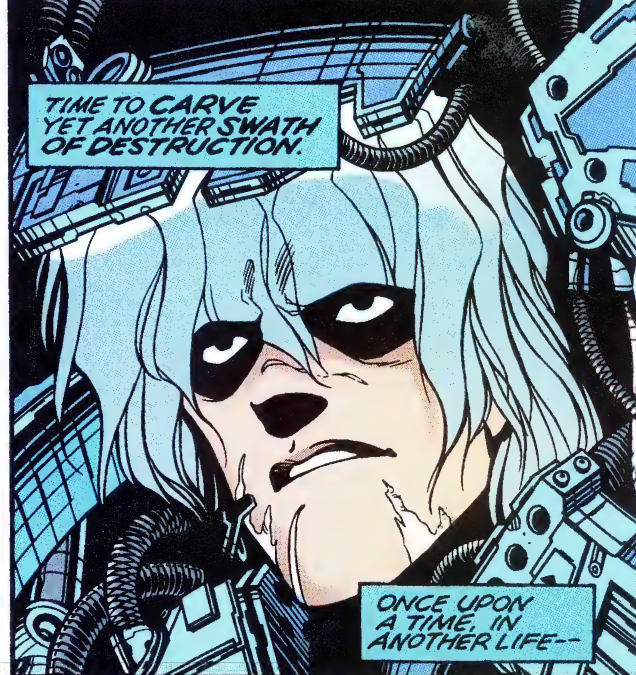


--A NIGHTMARE SCENARIO--

--WITH A LOW PROBABILITY OF SURVIVAL!

'COS I'M A WEAPON, BABY--

--A WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION--



TIME TO CARVE YET ANOTHER SWATH OF DESTRUCTION.

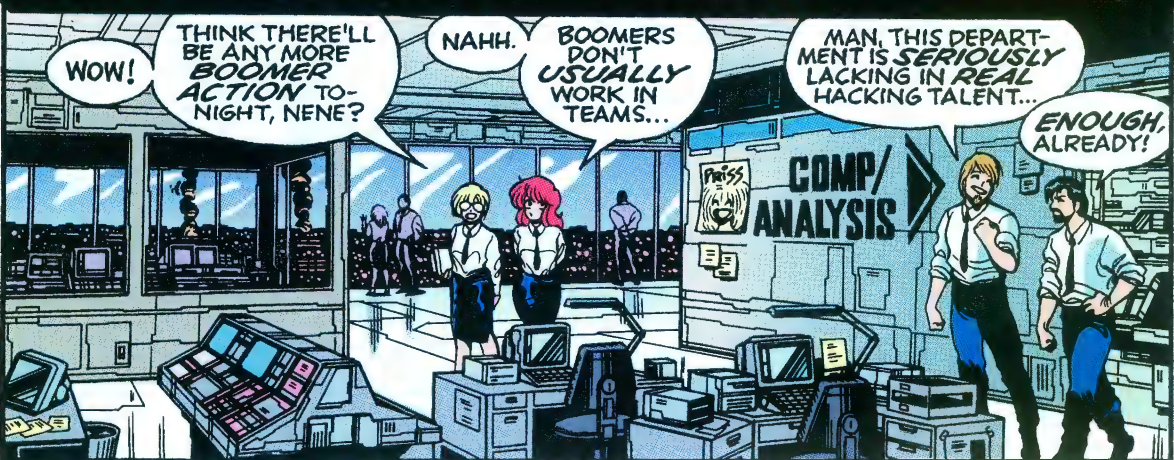
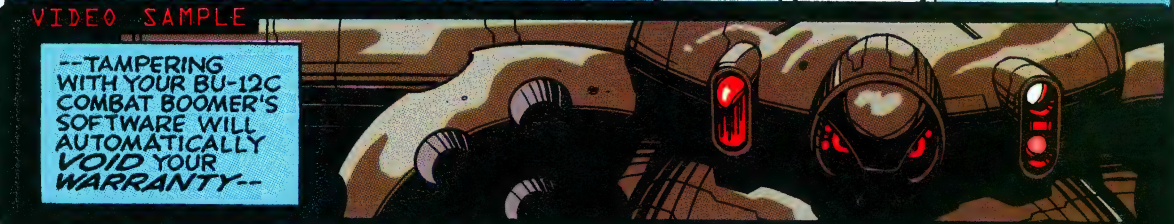
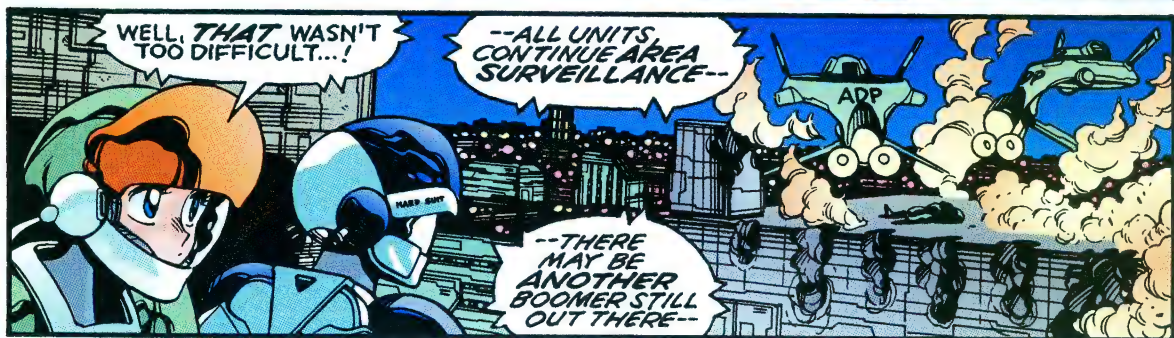
ONCE UPON A TIME, IN ANOTHER LIFE--

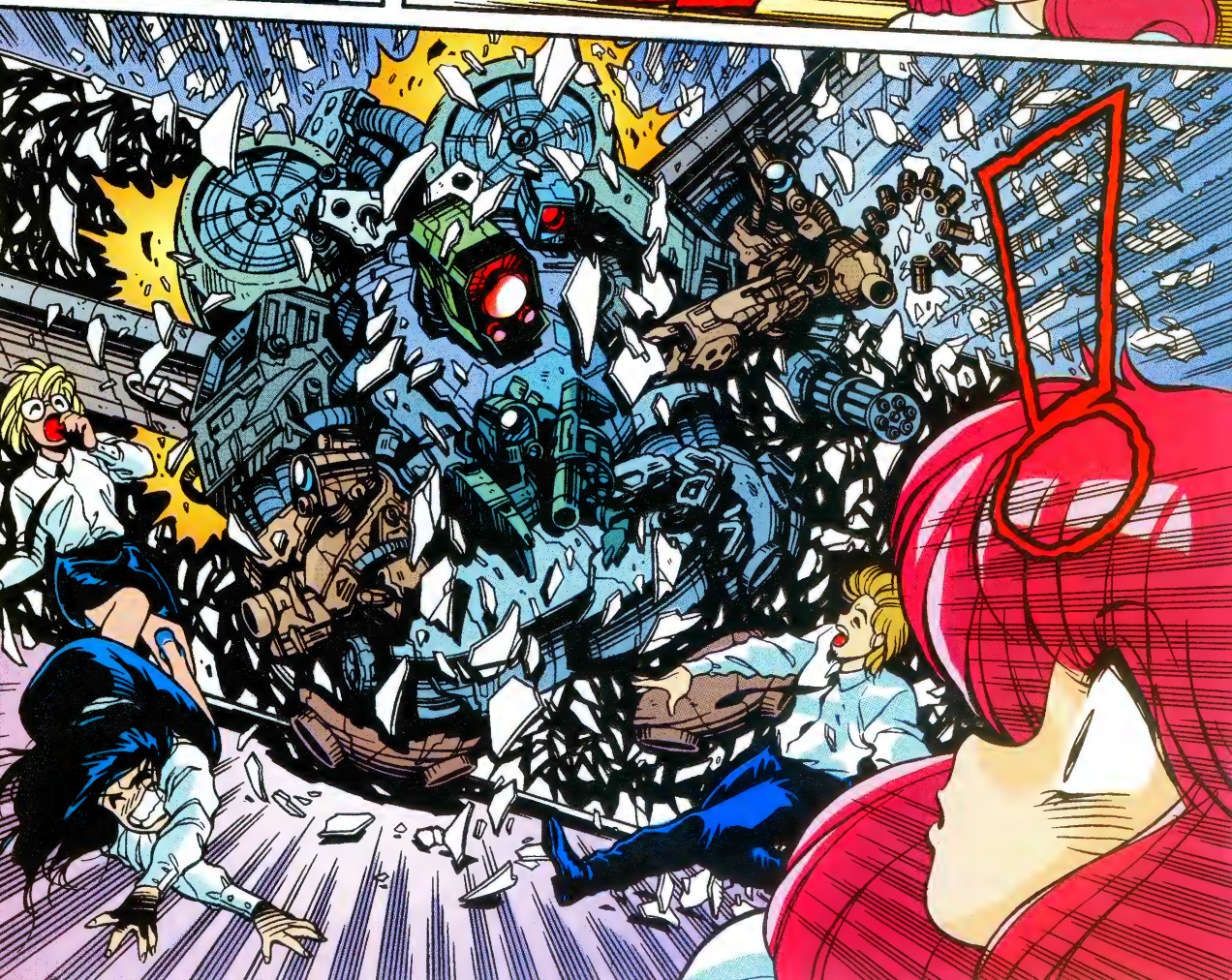
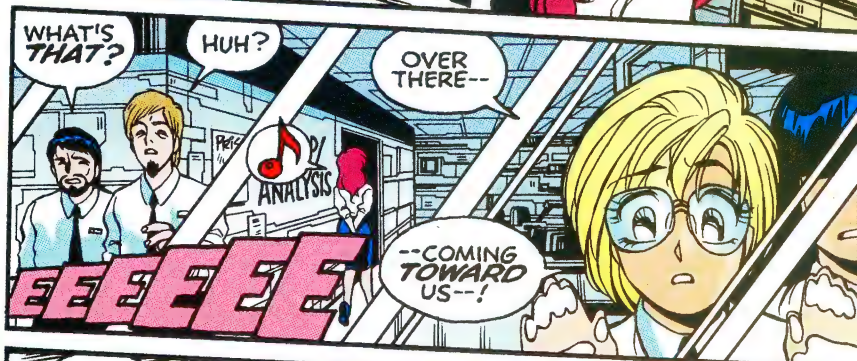
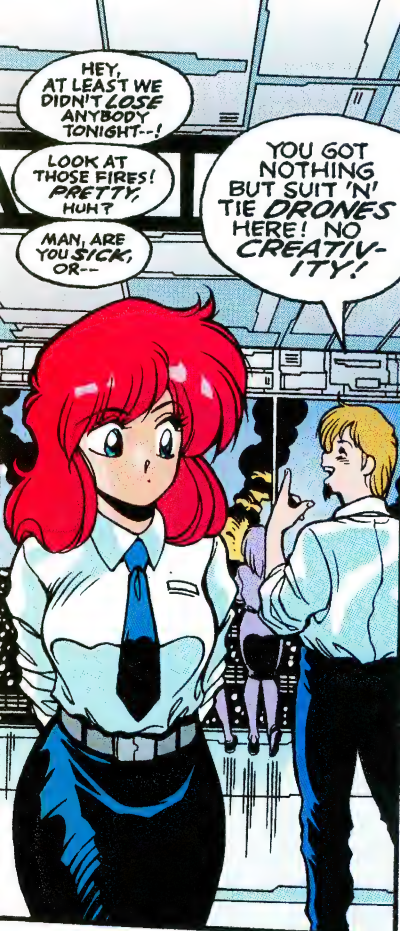


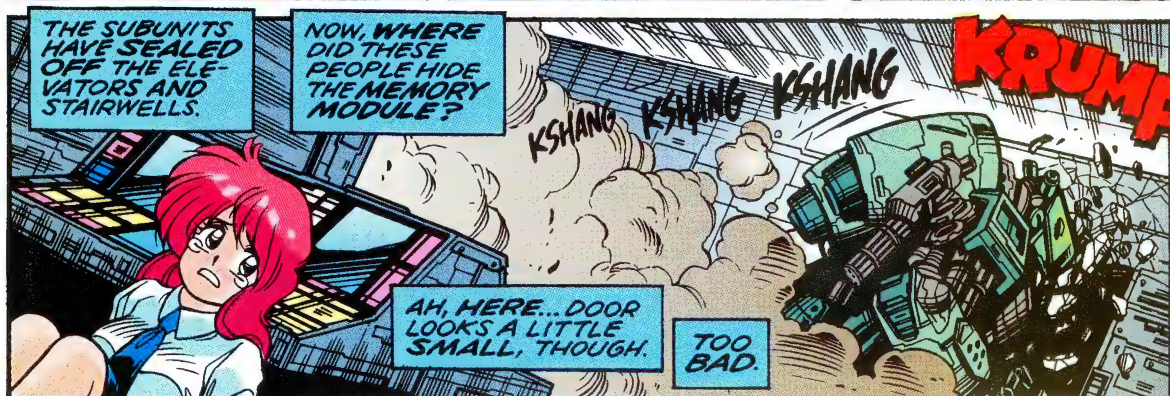
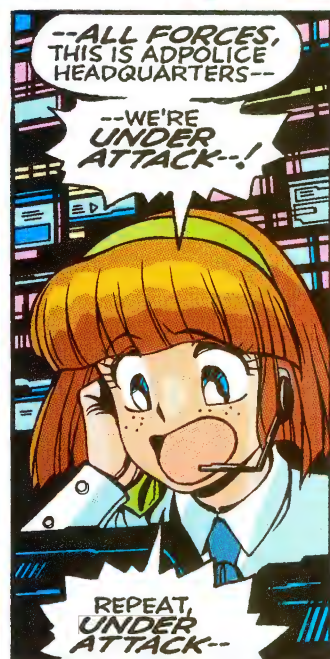
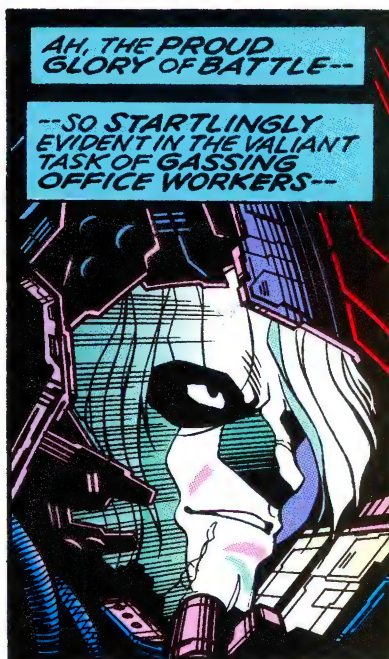
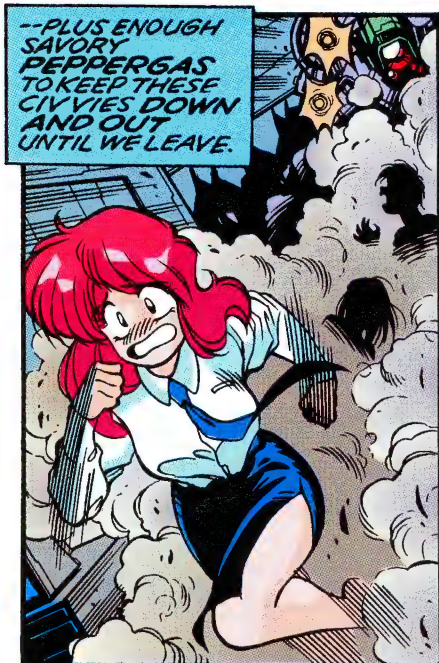
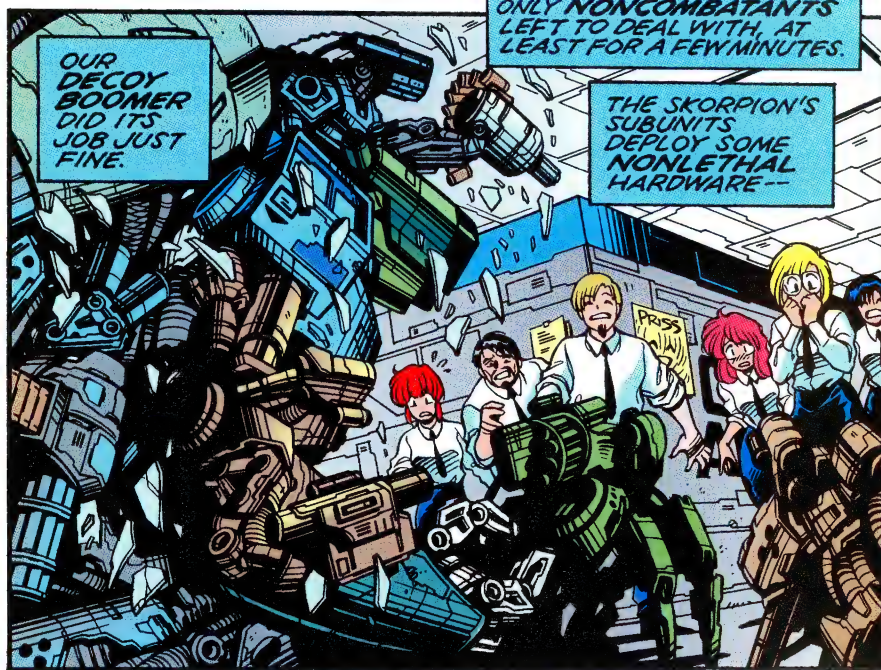
--BEFORE MY TEMPORAL LOBE ACQUIRED A FEW THOUSAND MICRO-LESIONS--

--I USED TO ENJOY THIS PART OF MY JOB, IN SOME PERVERSE WAY.

WHAT A MORON.





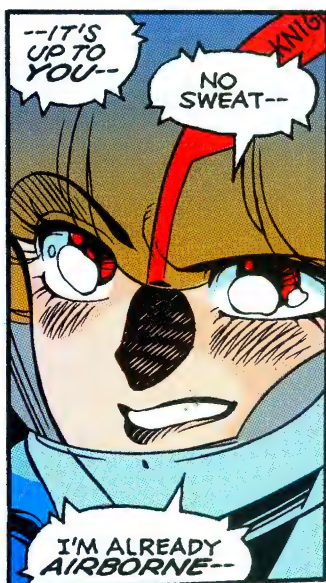




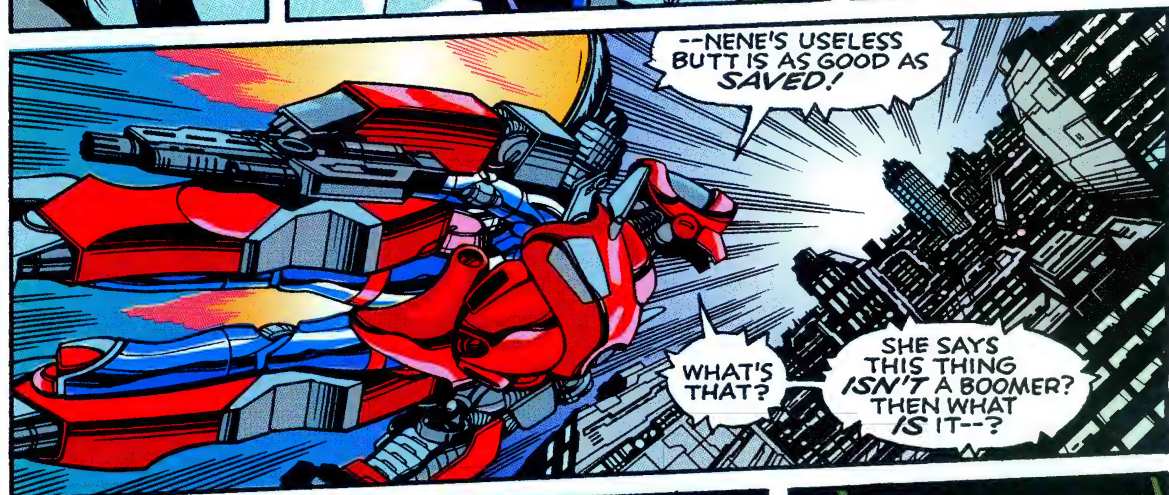
HELLO, SYLIA...?
HELLPP!



THAT'S KILO-METERS ACROSS TOWN--!
LINNA AND I WILL NEVER GET THERE IN TIME!
PRISS--
OH, MAN... NENE'S NO GOOD IN A FIGHT, EVEN WITH A HARD-SUIT...!



--IT'S UP TO YOU--
NO SWEAT--
I'M ALREADY AIRBORNE--



--NENE'S USELESS BUTT IS AS GOOD AS SAVED!
WHAT'S THAT?
SHE SAYS THIS THING ISN'T A BOOMER? THEN WHAT IS IT--?



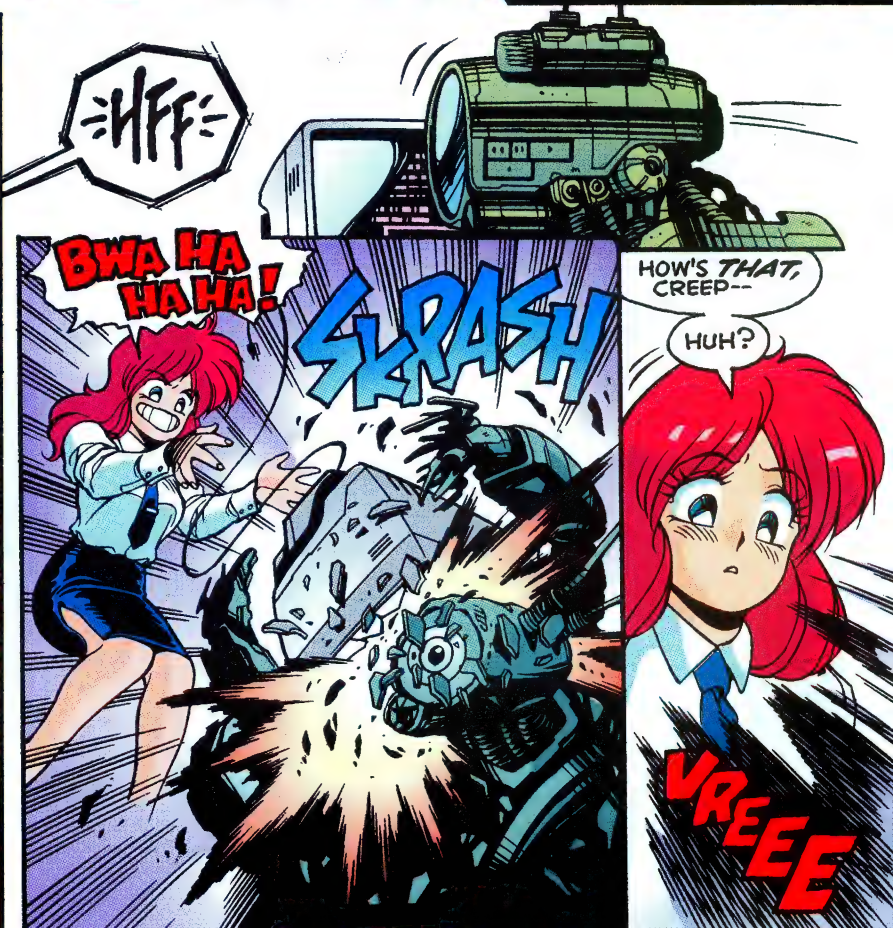
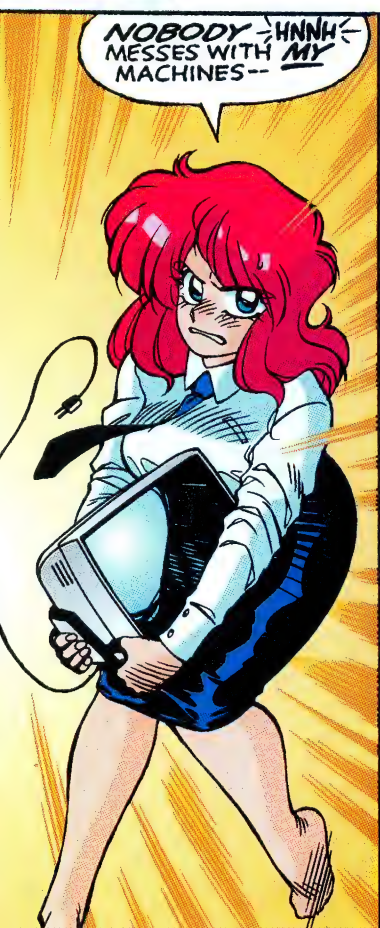
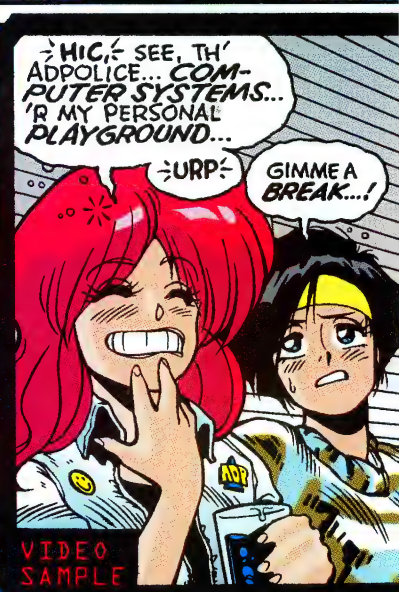
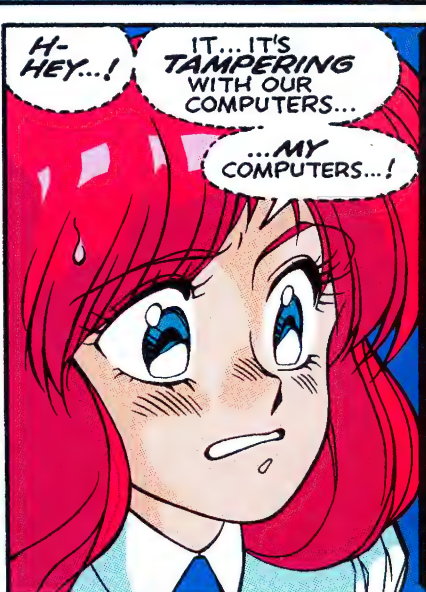
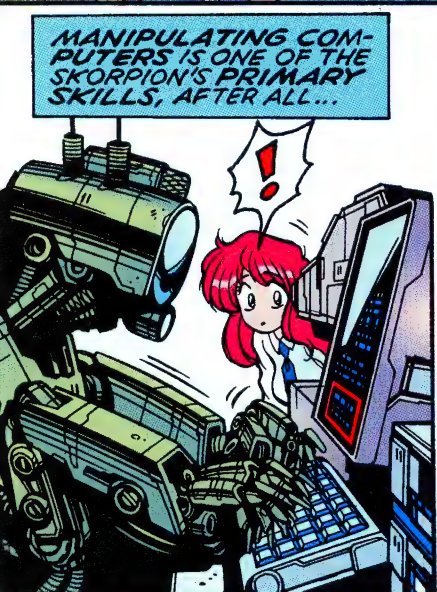
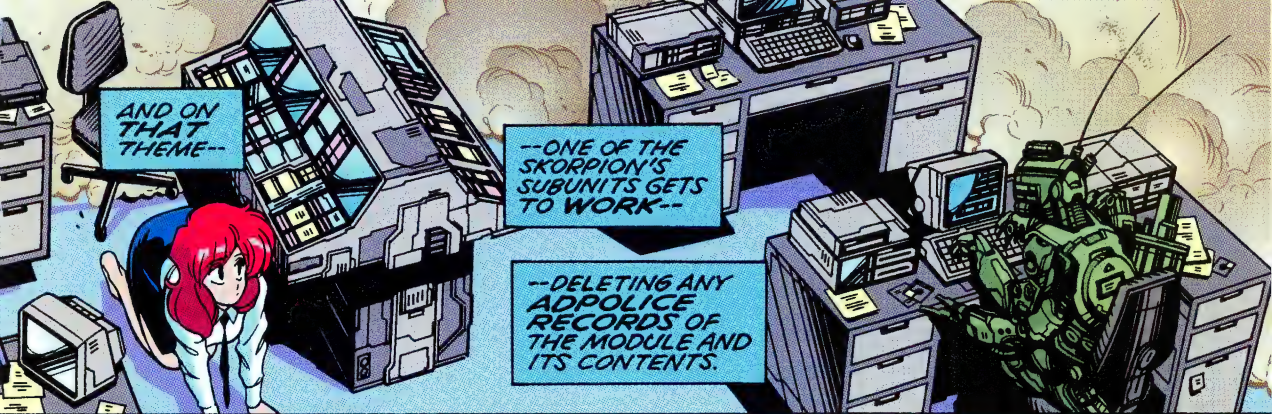
SO FAR, SO GOOD--
--THE ADD'S GROUND-POUNDERS ARE STILL STUCK IN TRAFFIC--

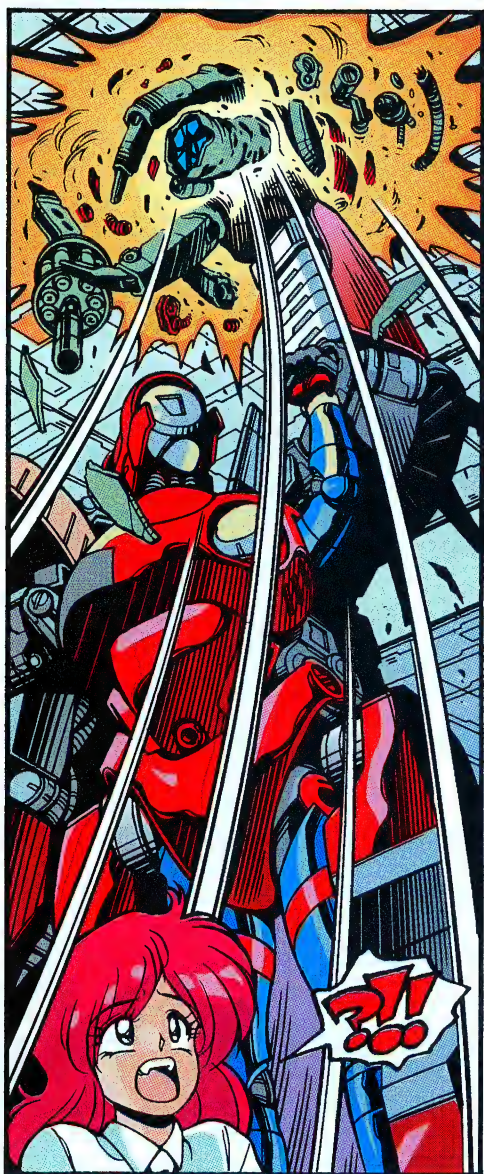
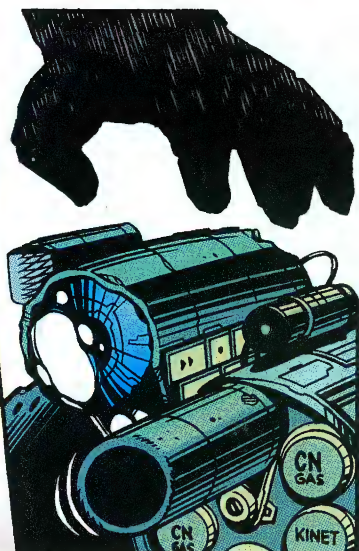
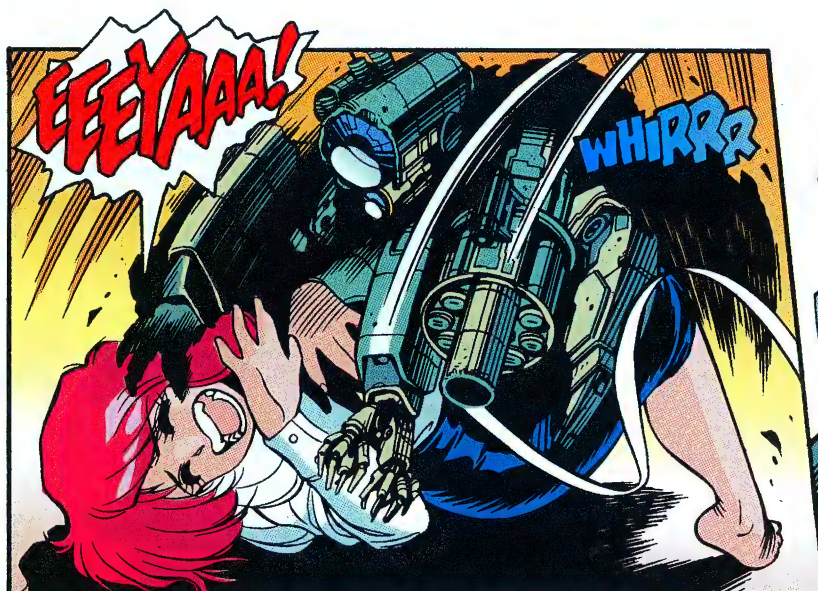


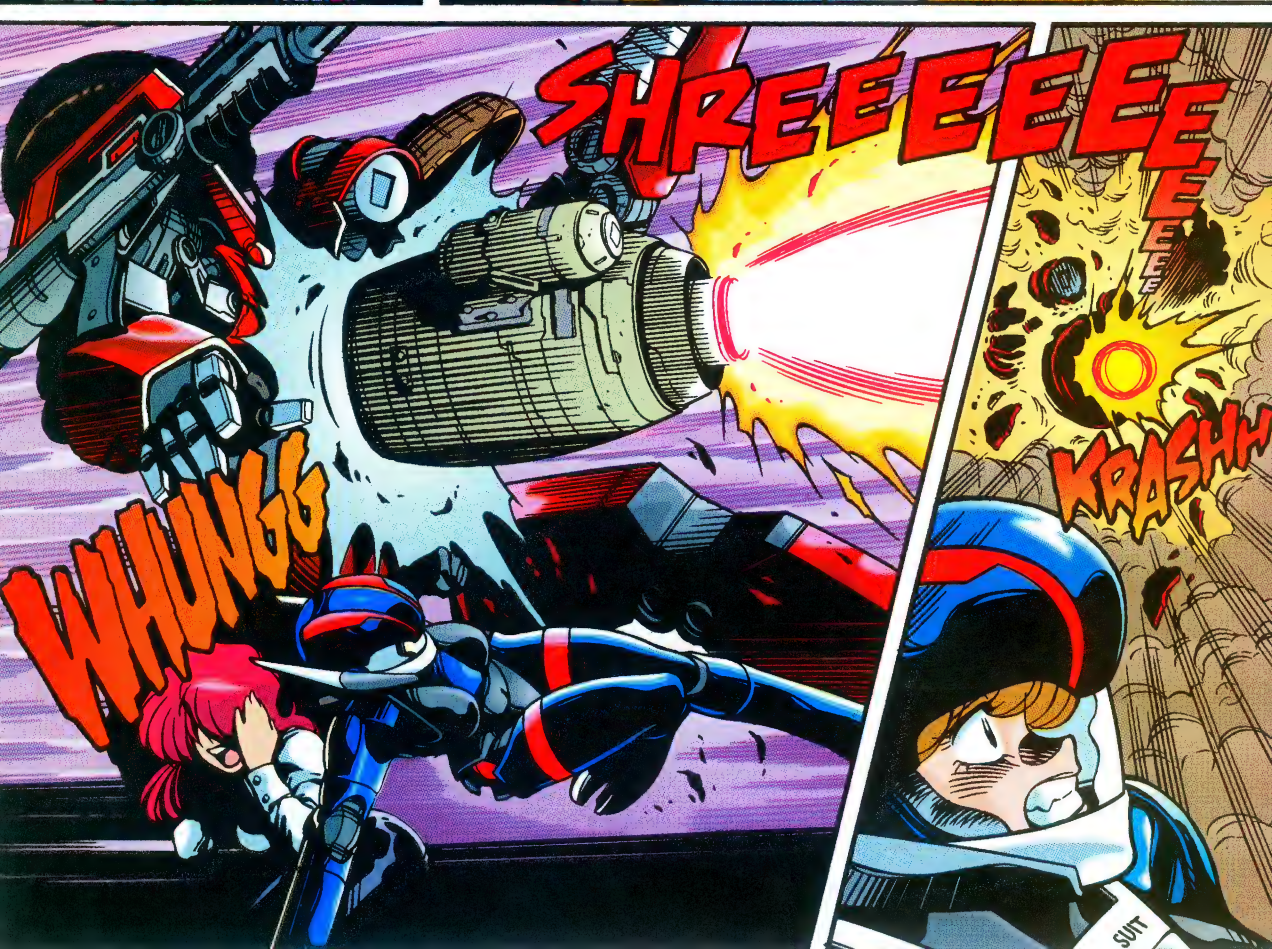
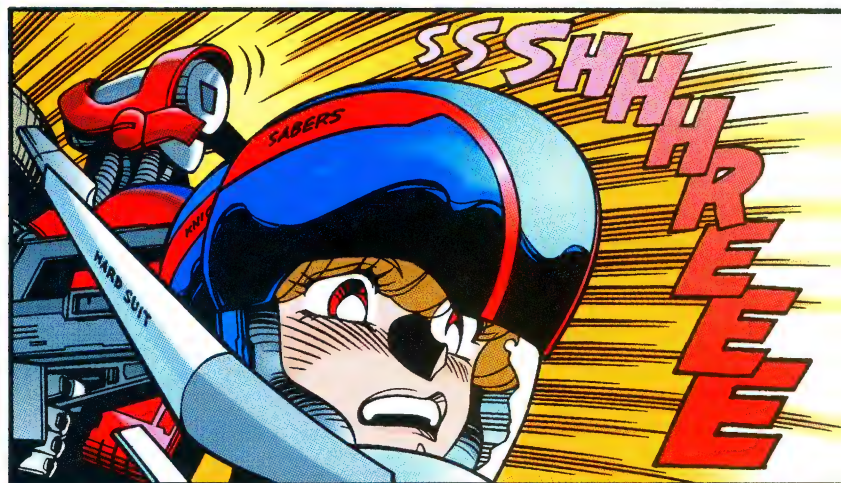
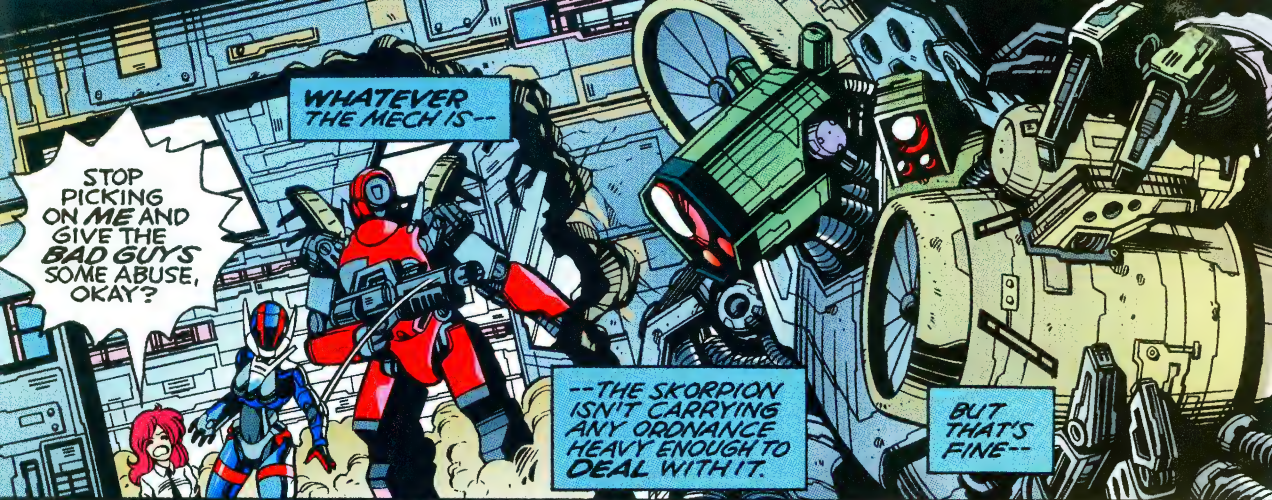
--AND THEIR HELOS ARE STILL MINUTES OUT.
HERE'S THE MISSING MEMORY CACHE--



--SO TERRIBLY VITAL TO OUR POINTLESS LITTLE MISSION, I UNDERSTAND.
YOU'D THINK SUCH AN ADVANCED MECH WOULD BE BETTER AT KEEPING BACK-UP COPIES...









HUH?

KLANG



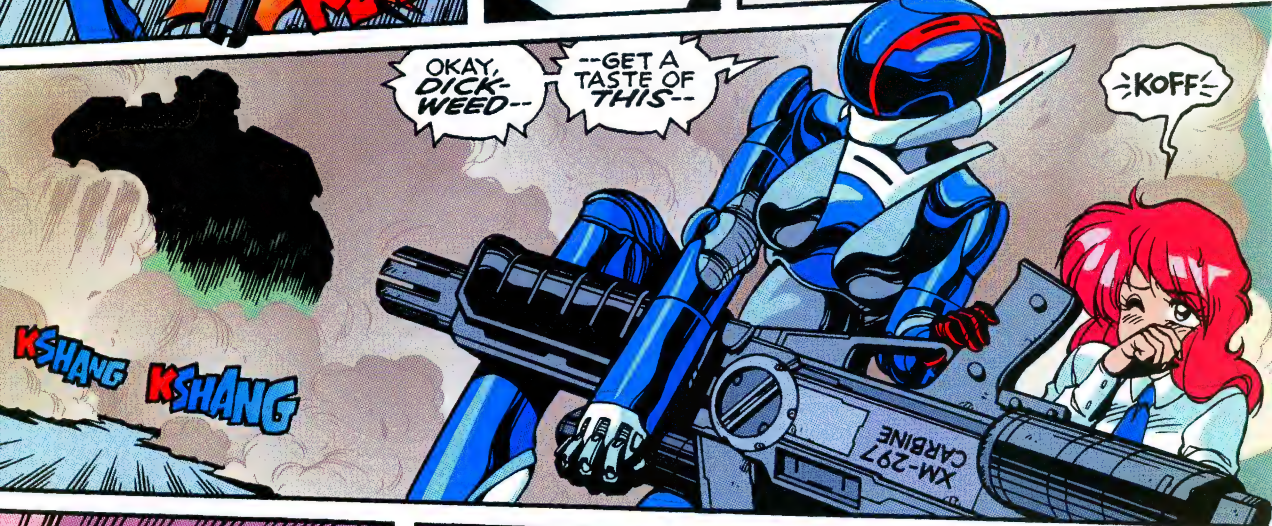
ALL
RIGHT...!



--WELL, THAT'S ONE LESS
MYSTERY MECH.

BETTER BAIL,
THE ADPOLICE
GUNSHIPS ARE
ALMOST HERE--

KSHANG

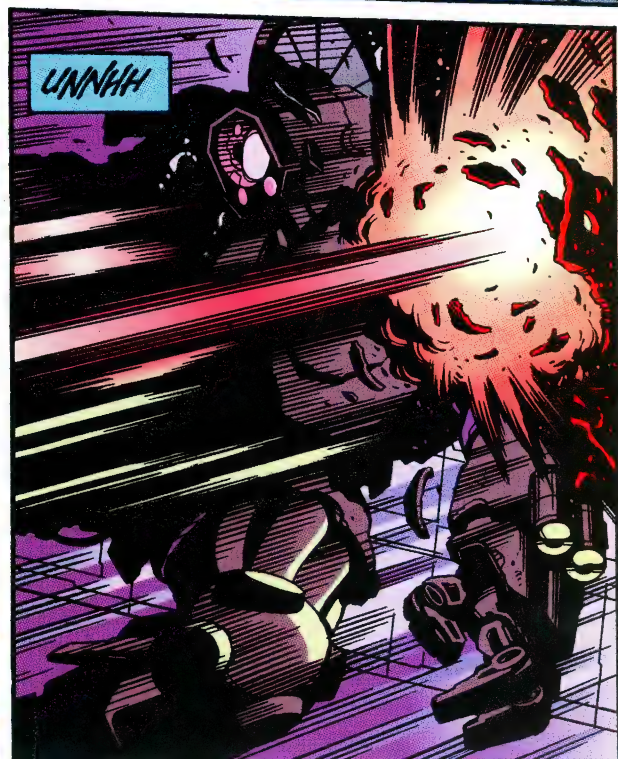
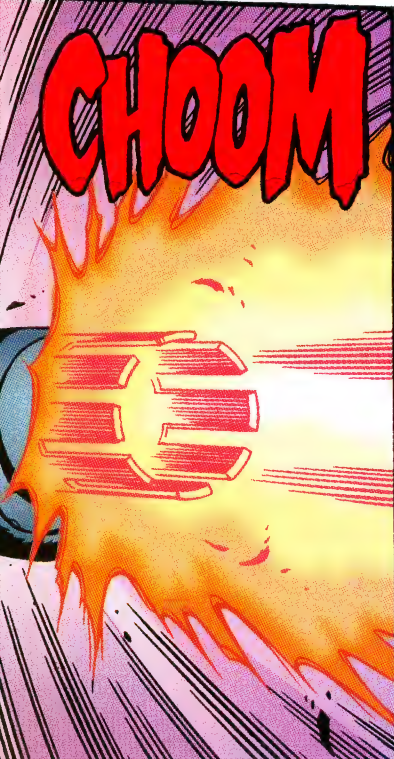


OKAY,
DICK-
WEED--

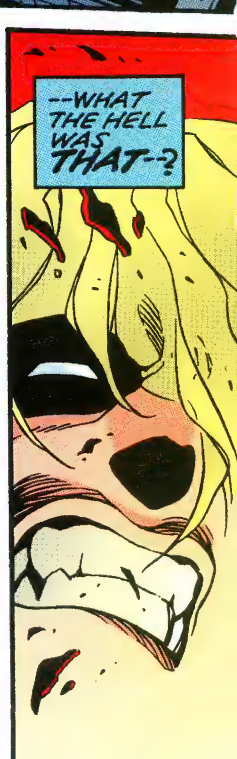
--GET A
TASTE OF
THIS--

=KOFF=

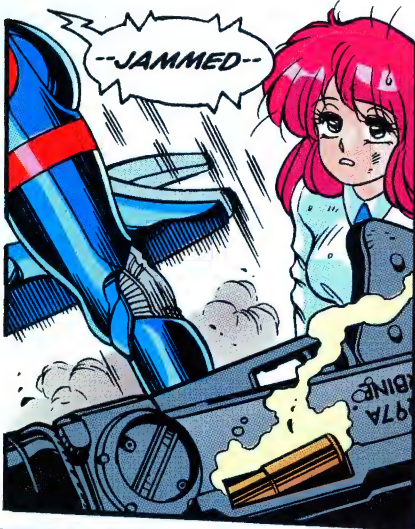
KSHANG KSHANG



LNNHH



--WHAT
THE HELL
WAS
THAT--?

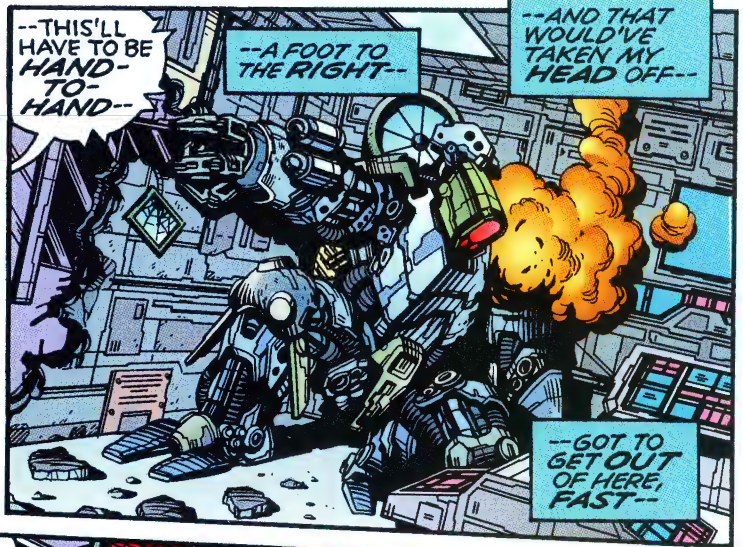


--JAMMED--

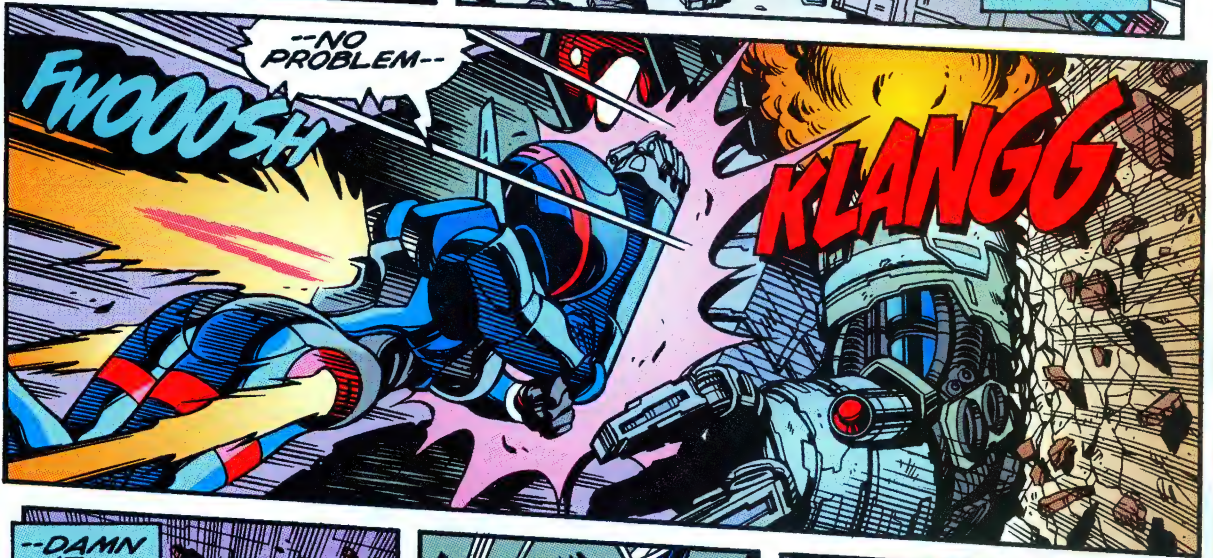
--THIS'LL
HAVE TO BE
HAND-
TO-
HAND--

--A FOOT TO
THE RIGHT--

--AND THAT
WOULD'VE
TAKEN MY
HEAD OFF--



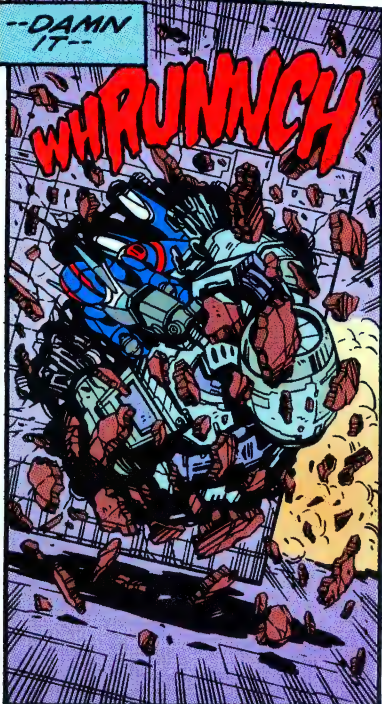
--GOT TO
GET OUT
OF HERE,
FAST--



--NO
PROBLEM--

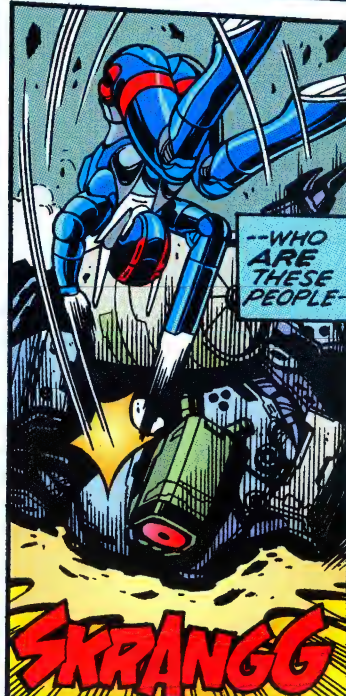
FWOOSH

KLANGG



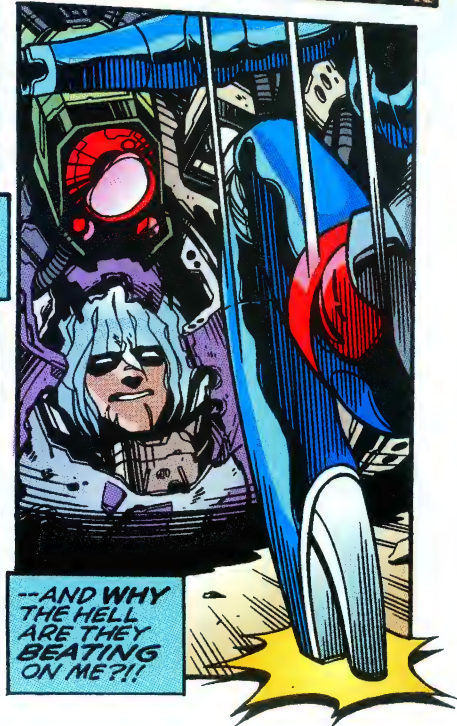
--DAMN
IT--

WHRUNNCH



--WHO
ARE
THESE
PEOPLE--

SKRANGG



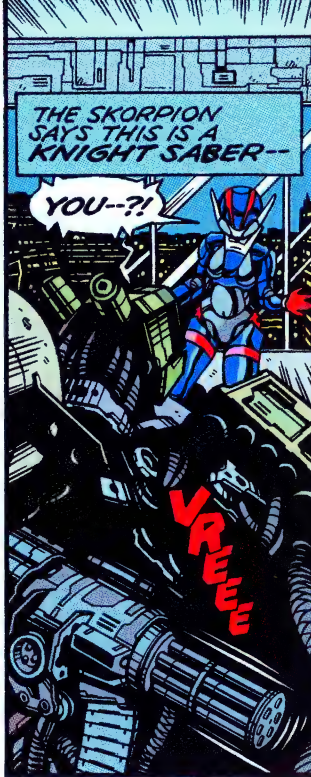
--AND WHY
THE HELL
ARE THEY
BEATING
ON ME?!!



LISTEN UP--

--ONE MOVE AND I BLOW YOU AWAY--

HUH?



THE SKORPION SAYS THIS IS A KNIGHT SABER--

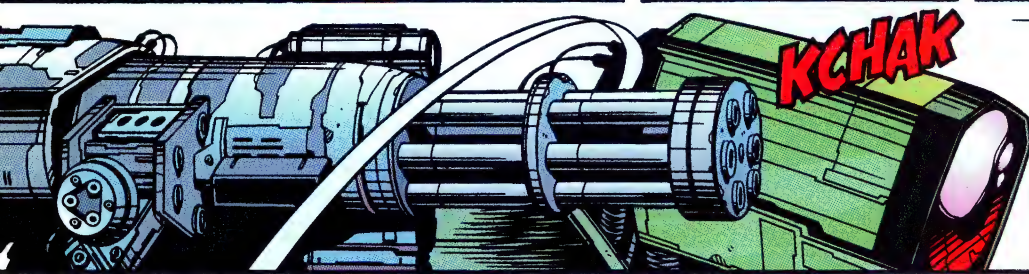
YOU--?!

VREE



ME?

--WHATEVER THAT MIGHT BE.



KCHAK

I'LL WORRY ABOUT THIS LITTLE PUZZLE LATER.



VARTTT

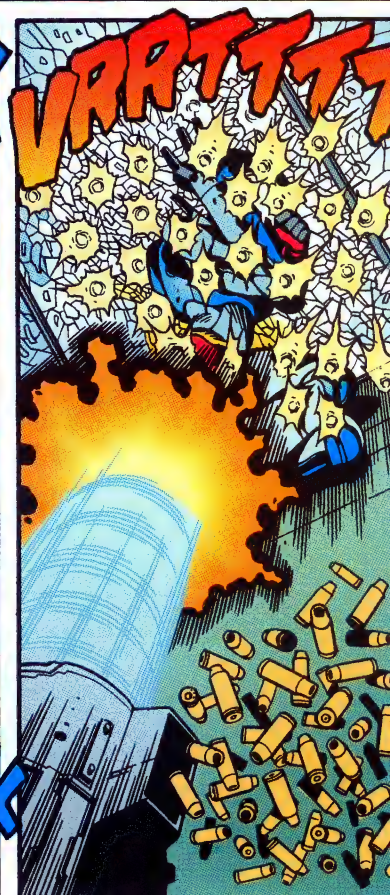


SPAK SPAK SPAK SPAK

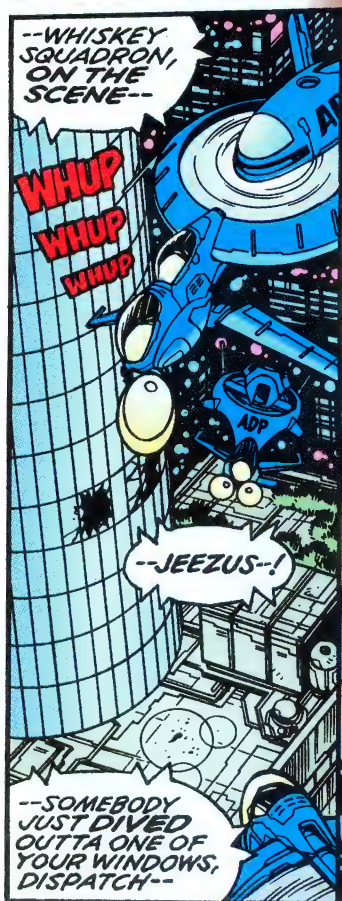
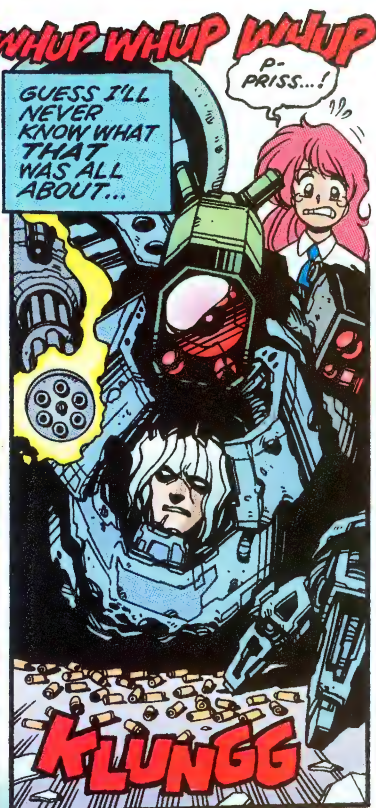
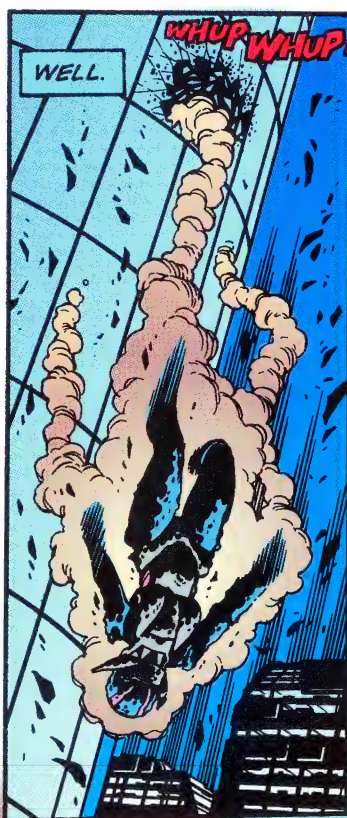
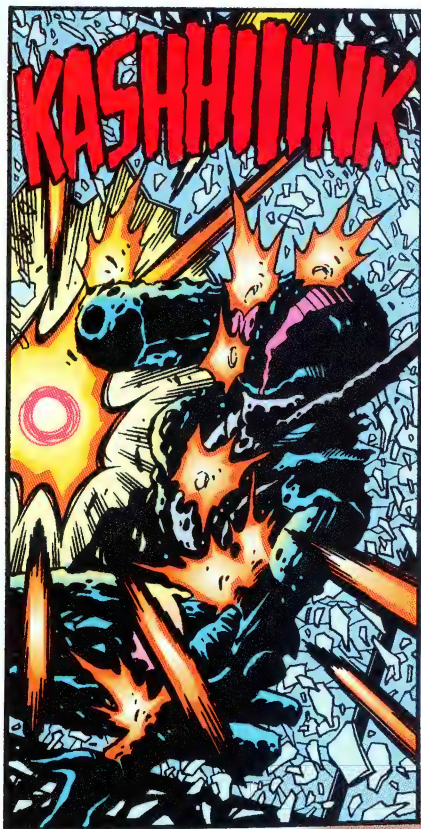
NUH

NUH

SPAK SPAK SPAK

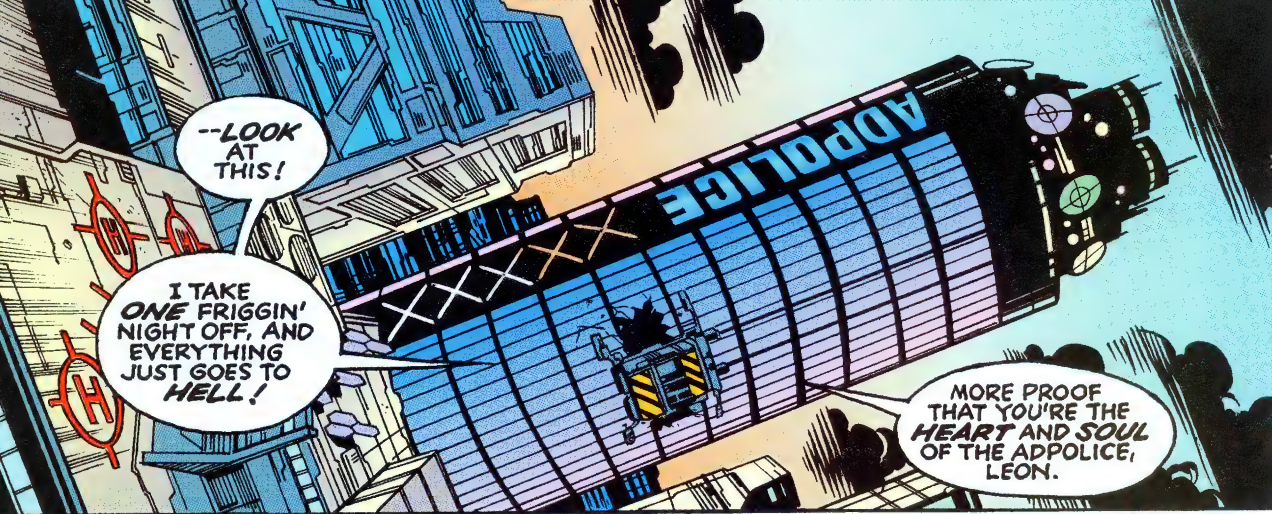


VARTTT



CHAPTER FOUR

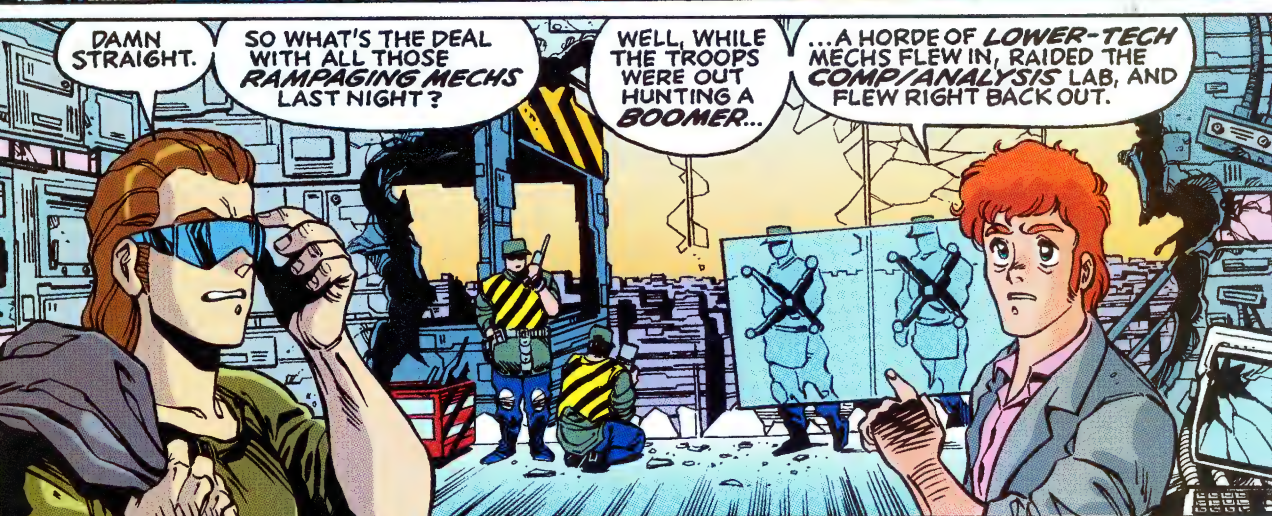




--LOOK
AT
THIS!

I TAKE
ONE FRIGGIN'
NIGHT OFF, AND
EVERYTHING
JUST GOES TO
HELL!

MORE PROOF
THAT YOU'RE THE
HEART AND SOUL
OF THE ADPOLICE,
LEON.

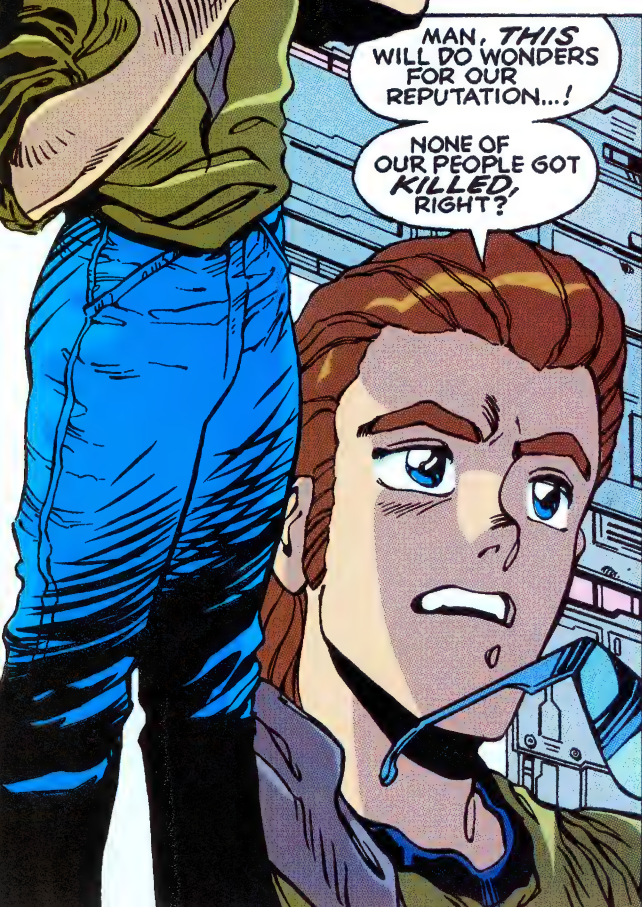


DAMN
STRAIGHT.

SO WHAT'S THE DEAL
WITH ALL THOSE
RAMPAGING MECHS
LAST NIGHT?

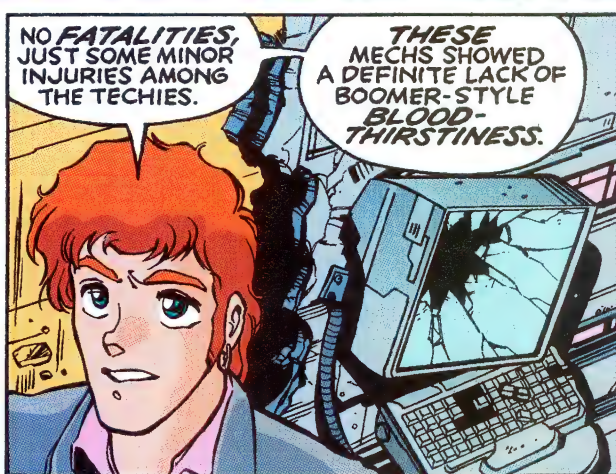
WELL, WHILE
THE TROOPS
WERE OUT
HUNTING A
BOOMER...

...A HORDE OF **LOWER-TECH**
MECHS FLEW IN, RAIDED THE
COMP/ANALYSIS LAB, AND
FLEW RIGHT BACK OUT.



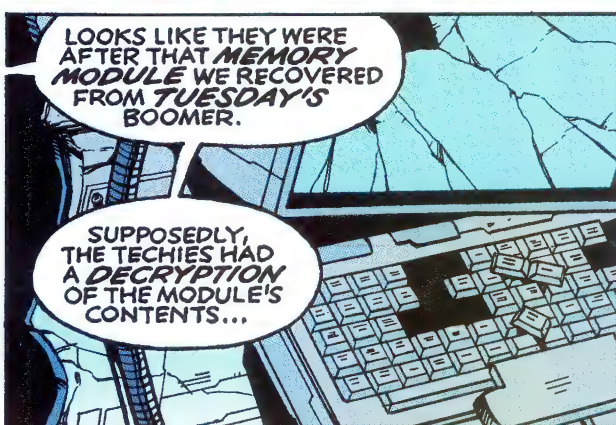
MAN, **THIS**
WILL DO WONDERS
FOR OUR
REPUTATION...!

NONE OF
OUR PEOPLE GOT
KILLED,
RIGHT?



NO **FATALITIES**,
JUST SOME MINOR
INJURIES AMONG
THE TECHIES.

THESE
MECHS SHOWED
A DEFINITE LACK OF
BOOMER-STYLE
BLOOD-THIRSTINESS.



LOOKS LIKE THEY WERE
AFTER THAT **MEMORY**
MODULE WE RECOVERED
FROM **TUESDAY'S**
BOOMER.

SUPPOSEDLY,
THE TECHIES HAD
A **DECRYPTION**
OF THE MODULE'S
CONTENTS...



"...BUT THERE'S
NO *TRACE*
OF IT NOW."

"OUR *GUESTS* TOOK
THE TIME TO WIPE IT
FROM OUR COMPUTERS,
APPARENTLY."

"IN FACT, YOUR GIRLFRIEND **NENE** SPOTTED A MECH MESSING AROUND AT A TERMINAL..."

"DAMN !
NENE
WASN'T
HURT,
WAS SHE?"

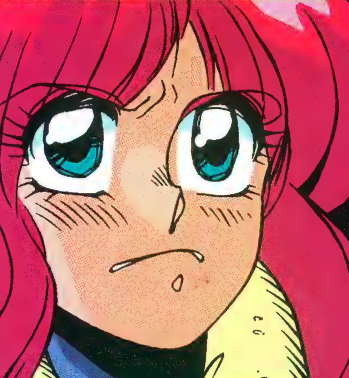


"IN FACT, YOUR GIRLFRIEND **NENE** SPOTTED A MECH MESSING AROUND AT A TERMINAL..."

"DAMN !
NENE
WASN'T
HURT,
WAS SHE?"

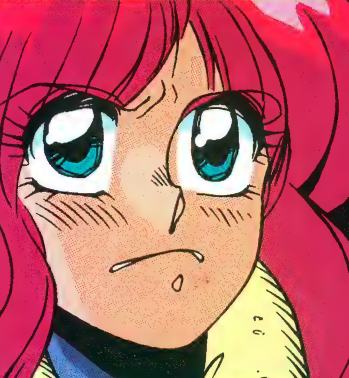


"NO, THE ONLY WOUND SHE SUFFERED WAS TO HER **ADPOLICE PRIDE**, LIKE THE REST OF US."



"GOOD. HATE TO THINK OF A **PIECE** LIKE HER GETTING MESSED UP...!"

"NO, THE ONLY WOUND SHE SUFFERED WAS TO HER **ADPOLICE PRIDE**, LIKE THE REST OF US."



"GOOD. HATE TO THINK OF A **PIECE** LIKE HER GETTING MESSED UP...!"

WELL, SPEAKING OF PIECES, LEON...

...DID AN THAT A KA DROPPED WITH T

WHUP WHUP WHUP

WELL. SPEAKING OF PIECES, LEON...

...DID ANYONE TELL YOU THAT A *KNIGHT SABER* DROPPED BY TO TUSSELE WITH THE MECHS?

YEAH, AND GOT HERSELF MINIGUNNED TO PIECES, I HEARD.

THAT'S ONE LESS VIGILANTE BABE IN HIGH-HEELLED ARMOR, HUH?

WHUP WHUP WHUP

WELL. SPEAKING OF PIECES, LEON...

...DID ANYONE TELL YOU THAT A *KNIGHT SABER* DROPPED BY TO TUSSELE WITH THE MECHS?

YEAH, AND GOT HERSELF MINIGUNNED TO PIECES, I HEARD.

THAT'S ONE LESS VIGILANTE BABE IN HIGH-HEELLED ARMOR, HUH?

WHUP WHUP WHUP

WELL. SPEAKING OF PIECES, LEON...

...DID ANYONE TELL YOU THAT A *KNIGHT SABER* DROPPED BY TO TUSSELE WITH THE MECHS?

YEAH, AND GOT HERSELF MINIGUNNED TO PIECES, I HEARD.

THAT'S ONE LESS VIGILANTE BABE IN HIGH-HEELLED ARMOR, HUH?

WHUP WHUP WHUP

HARD TO SAY. WORD IS, SOME KIND OF **CANDY APPLE RED** MECH FLEW OFF WITH THE BODY...

ALSO EVAADING OUR POOR HELO JOCKEYS, OF COURSE.

WHUP WHUP

HARD TO SAY. WORD IS, SOME KIND OF **CANDY APPLE RED** MECH FLEW OFF WITH THE BODY...

ALSO EVAADING OUR POOR HELO JOCKEYS, OF COURSE.

WHUP WHUP

MAN, THIS HAS BEEN ONE **WRETCHED** WEEK FOR THE **ADDOLICE...**

...HELL, IT'S BEEN A **WRETCHED** WEEK FOR **PRET** MUCH **EVERY** **BODY...**

MAN, THIS HAS BEEN ONE **WRETCHED** WEEK FOR THE **ADDOLICE...**

...HELL, IT'S BEEN A **WRETCHED** WEEK FOR **PRET** MUCH **EVERY** **BODY...**

THEY'RE **BADLY** OVEREXTENDED, QUINCY.

JUST UP **YOUR** OFFER BY, SAY, FIVE YUAN A SHARE PLUS SOME MUNICIPAL BONDS...

THEY'RE **BADLY** OVEREXTENDED, QUINCY.

JUST UP **YOUR** OFFER BY, SAY, FIVE YUAN A SHARE PLUS SOME MUNICIPAL BONDS...

...AND YOU'LL
OUTBID THEM
SAFELY AND
WITHOUT
EXCESS,
OKAY?

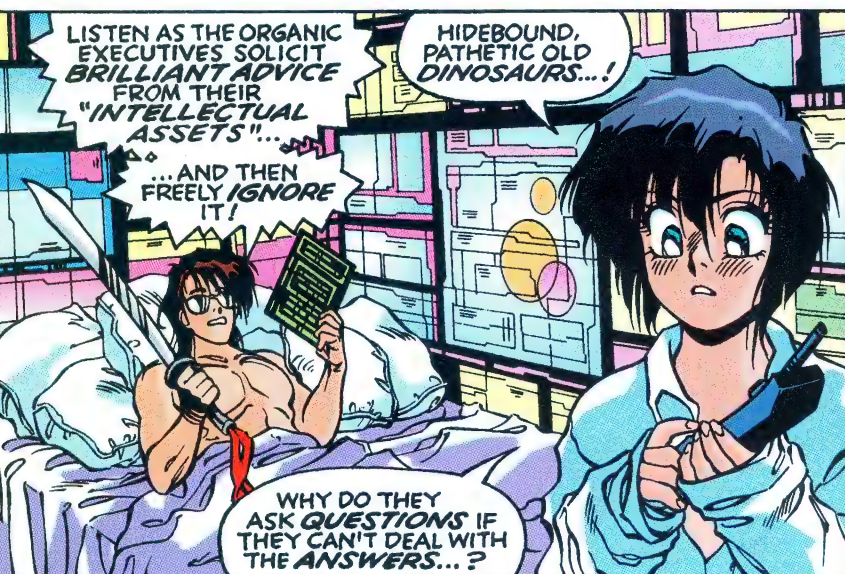


WITNESS
THE PROCESS
OF **DECISION
MAKING**
AT MIGHTY
GENOM!

FINE,
QUINCY.
**YOU'RE THE
EXECUTIVE BOARD
CHAIRMAN,**
I'M JUST THE
**STRATEGIC
ADVISOR.**

YOU CAN
LISTEN TO
MY "LEARNED
COUNSEL," OR
JUST
DISREGARD
IT.

THE
DECISION'S
YOURS.



LISTEN AS THE ORGANIC
EXECUTIVES SOLICIT
BRILLIANT ADVICE
FROM THEIR
"INTELLECTUAL
ASSETS"...

HIDEBOUND,
PATHETIC OLD
DINOSAURS...!

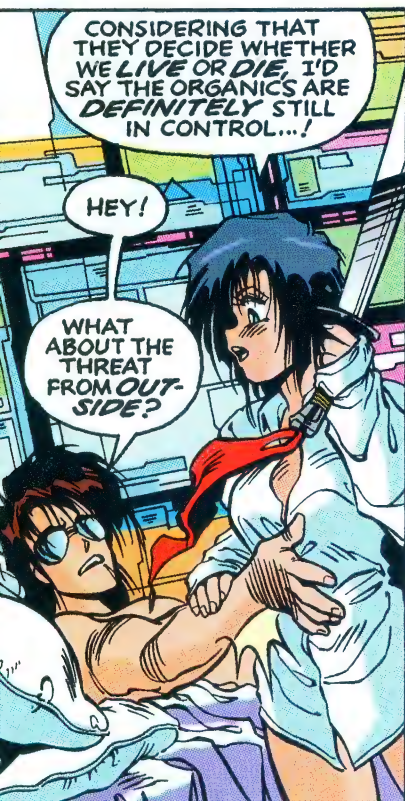
...AND THEN
FREELY IGNORE
IT!

WHY DO THEY
ASK **QUESTIONS**
IF THEY CAN'T DEAL WITH
THE **ANSWERS...?**



OH, IT'S JUST A **HUMAN**
THING. THEY HAVE TO MAKE
A **TOKEN DECISION** OR
TWO ON THEIR OWN...

...JUST TO
REASSURE THEM-
SELVES THAT THEY'RE
STILL IN **CONTROL...**



CONSIDERING THAT
THEY DECIDE WHETHER
WE **LIVE OR DIE**, I'D
SAY THE ORGANICS ARE
DEFINITELY STILL
IN **CONTROL...!**

HEY!

WHAT
ABOUT THE
THREAT
FROM **OUT-
SIDE?**



AS IN **VASHNEVSKAYA**
AND HIS ADORABLE LITTLE
MECH? GET **SERIOUS...**

HEY,
THEY'VE
RETRIEVED
THAT **PESKY**
MODULE...

...NO
DOUBT THEY'VE
PREPPED TONS
OF **NASTY**
HARDWARE...



...AND ARE ON
THE VERGE OF A
PAROXYSM OF
APOCALYPTIC
MAYHEM!

EITHER
THAT, OR
THEY'RE SITTING
AROUND DOING
NOTHING.

CAN'T...
STAND IT...
ANY LONGER...

...COME ON,
YOU
BASTARD...

...THE END
IS NEAR.

AT LAST.

...KILL
ME...

...KILL ME
NOW...

THREE YEARS AGO, GENOM MESSILY
INTERRUPTED MY ILL-FATED
HEADHUNTING MISSION, FIRST BY
DEPLOYING COMBAT BOOMERS...

...THEN BY NAILING MY TEAM WITH
TRANSMISSIONS FROM A "PULSE
WEAPON," AN ANTIPERSONNEL
DEVICE THAT USES ELECTRO-
MAGNETIC FIELDS TO DISRUPT
HUMAN NEURAL ACTIVITY.

CONSPIRACY THEORISTS SAY THIS LITTLE TOY DATES
BACK TO THE OLD SOVIET UNION. THAT'S SOMEWHAT
IRONIC, GIVEN MY RUSSIAN ETHNIC HYPHEN...

I WAS THE ONLY ONE TO
ESCAPE THE TOKYO AM-
BUSH UNSCATHED...

...OR SO I
THOUGHT.

...SPRAY
SOME
GRAY...

EIGHT MONTHS
AGO, I LEARNED
OTHERWISE.

TURNED OUT THAT
MY TEMPORAL LOBE
WAS RIDDLED WITH
THOUSANDS OF
MICROLESIONS.

SOME KEY WORDS
USED IN HIS
DIAGNOSIS WERE
MALIGNANT,
INOPERABLE,
PROGRESSIVE,
AND FATAL.

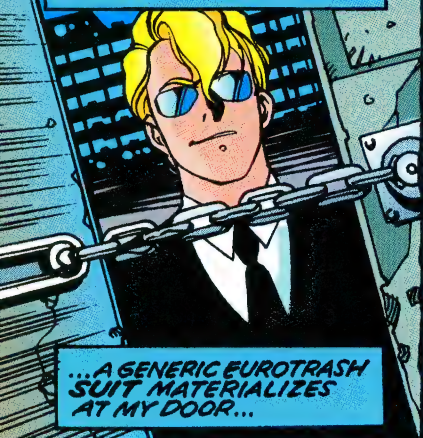
...OR, IN THE
JARGON,
"COMPLEX
PARTIAL
TEMPORAL
LOBE
SEIZURES..."

DAMNEDEST
THING MY
NEUROLOGIST
HAD EVER SEEN.

I WOULD SOON
EXPERIENCE BLACK-
OUTS, SEIZURES,
UNCONTROLLABLE
ATTACKS OF RAGE...

"...ACCOMPANIED
BY EPISODIC
DYSCONTROL."
NICE PHRASE,
THAT.

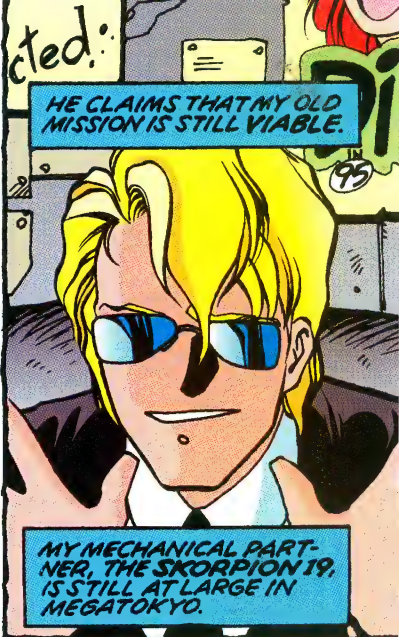
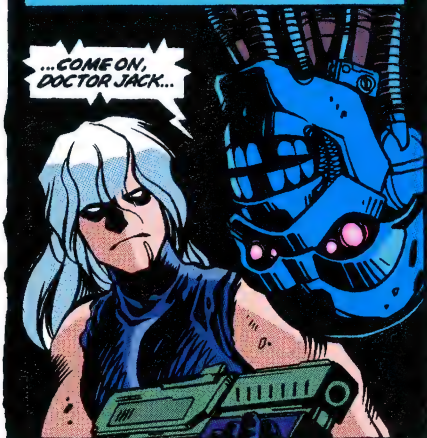
CUT TO: TWO WEEKS AGO TONIGHT. JUST AFTER MY EVENING DOSE OF ACETAZOLIMIDE AND CARBAMAZEPINE...



...A GENERIC EUROTRASH SUIT MATERIALIZES AT MY DOOR...

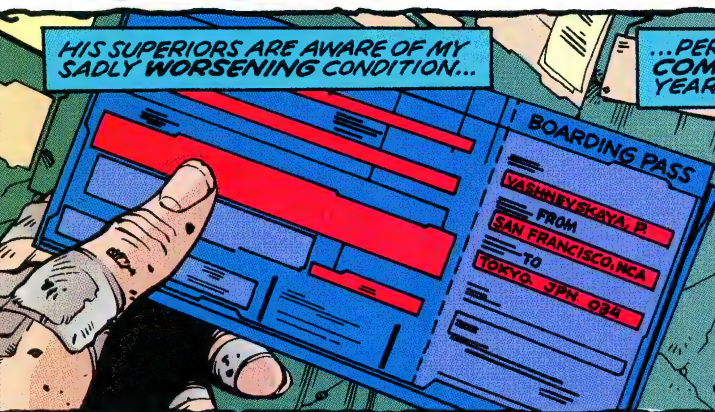
...LIKE A PARTICULARLY NASTY PHARMACEUTICAL SIDE EFFECT. THE SUIT SAYS HE HAILS FROM MY FORMER EUROPEAN EMPLOYERS...

...COME ON, DOCTOR JACK...



HE CLAIMS THAT MY OLD MISSION IS STILL VIABLE.

MY MECHANICAL PARTNER, THE SKORPION 19, IS STILL AT LARGE IN MEGATOKYO.



HIS SUPERIORS ARE AWARE OF MY SADLY WORSENING CONDITION...

...PERHAPS, IF I WERE TO COMPLETE MY THREE-YEAR-OLD ASSIGNMENT...

...THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP ME OUT.

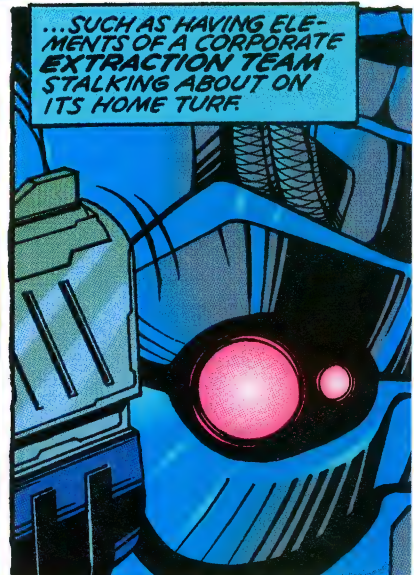
DANGLE THAT SLENDER THREAD OF HOPE, EUROWEASEL.



BUT, OF COURSE I KNOW THAT THE EUROPEANS ARE NO LONGER IN ANY CONDITION TO CONTEMPLATE SUCH A BOLD MOVE.



NO, THIS SUIT IS REALLY FROM GENOM. AND GENOM, IT WOULD SEEM, DOESN'T LIKE LOOSE ENDS...

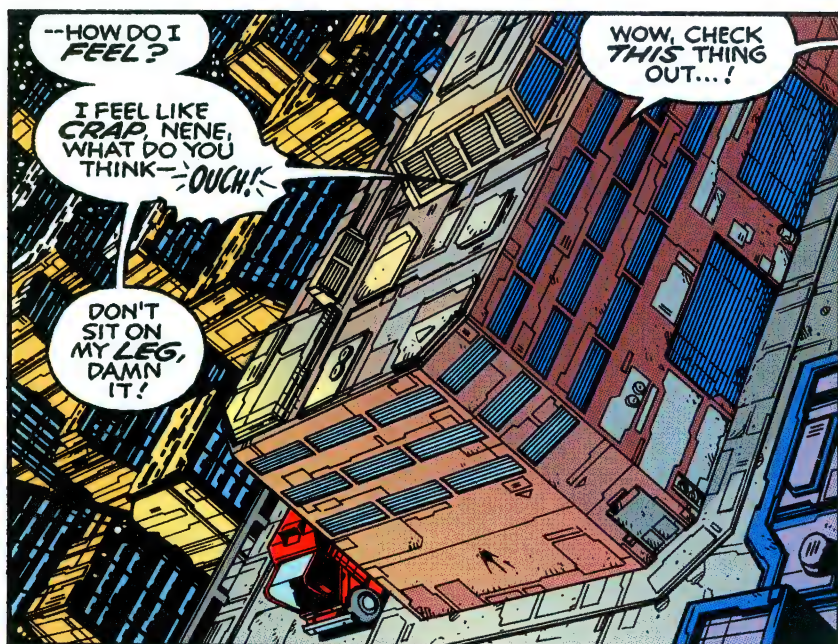


...SUCH AS HAVING ELEMENTS OF A CORPORATE EXTRACTION TEAM STALKING ABOUT ON ITS HOME TURF.

**BUH
KOOM**

NO, GENOM WOULD PREFER A NICE, SOLID RESOLUTION TO THE MATTER...





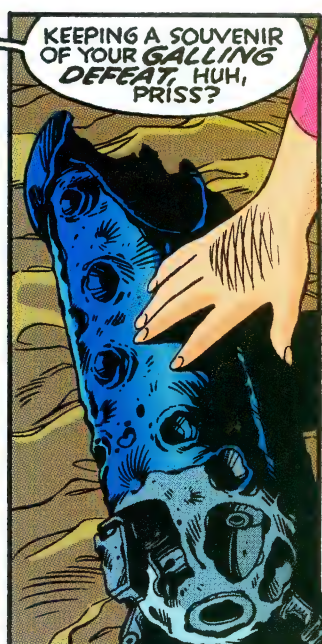
--HOW DO I
FEEL?

I FEEL LIKE
CRAP, NENE,
WHAT DO YOU
THINK--

OUCH!

DON'T
SIT ON
MY **LEG**,
DAMN
IT!

WOW, CHECK
THIS THING
OUT...!



KEEPING A **SOUVENIR**
OF YOUR **GALLING**
DEFEAT, HUH,
PRISS?



JEEZ...
GETTING **NAILED**
WITH A FEW
HUNDRED ROUNDS
OF **MINIGUN**
FIRE...

...EVEN WITH A
HARDSUIT ON,
THAT'S GOTTA
STING...!

WATCH
WHERE
YOU
POINT
THAT!

SYLIA SAID
THE **BEAM**
CANNON MIGHT
BE STILL
FUNCTIONAL...

Y'KNOW
WHAT
THEY
SAY...

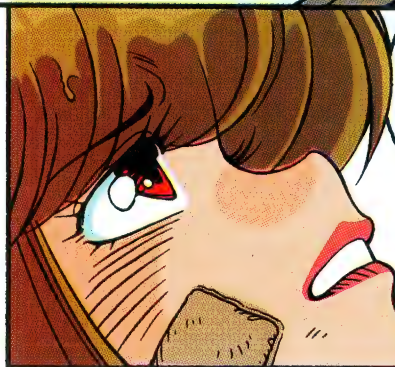
HMM...
"NEUROPHASE
ASSIMILATION"...

...WHAT
DOESN'T
KILL
YOU...

"NEURAL
RECONFIGURA-
TION TO ENABLE
IMPROVED PATTERN
RECOGNITION"...

...MAKES YOU EVEN
MORE **EMBITTERED**
AND **RESENTFUL**...

"GENOM'S
USAGE OF NEURO-
LOGICALLY ENHANCED
INTELLECTS"...



THAT'D BE
LIKE GETTING
HIT BY A
BASEBALL
BAT OVER
EVERY INCH
OF YOUR
BODY...!

NAHH...

...IT'D BE MORE
LIKE GETTING
HIT BY A
POOL CUE,
I'D SAY...





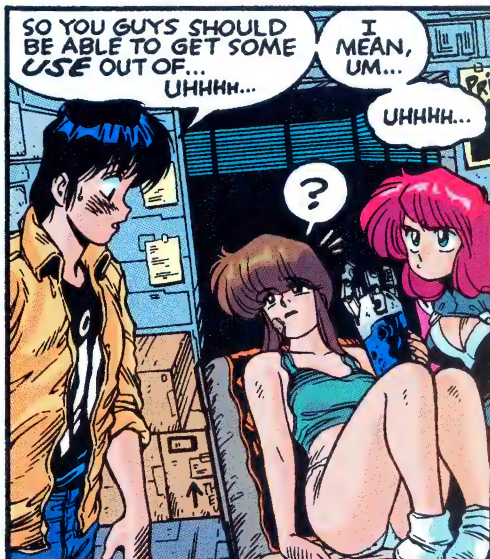
I'M IMPRESSED...
...THEY ACTUALLY OBTAINED COPIES OF FATHER'S PROTESTS TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD...!

HEY, SIS...
...I'VE FINISHED THE REPAIRS ON THE MOTOSLAVE, OR MOTOROID, WHATEVER...

FATAL NOT SERIOUS
DPs

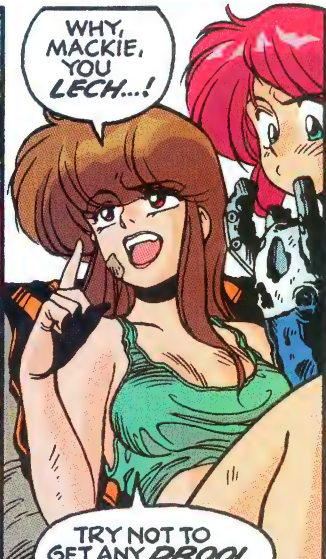


...IT'S STILL IN BAD SHAPE BUT IT SHOULD HOLD TOGETHER FOR A LITTLE WHILE...



SO YOU GUYS SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET SOME USE OUT OF... UHHH...

I MEAN, UM...
UHHH...



WHY, MACKIE, YOU LECH...!

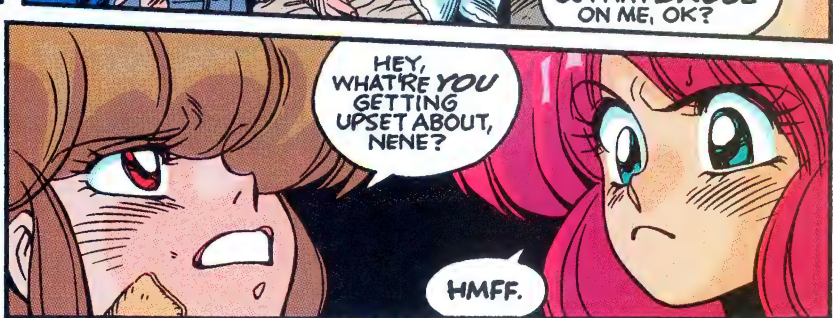
TRY NOT TO GET ANY DROOL ON ME, OK?



PRISS-!
WHAAAT?

UH, BE BACK IN A LITTLE WHILE--

--GOTTA GO FUEL UP THE TRUCK--



HEY, WHAT'RE YOU GETTING UPSET ABOUT, NENE?

HMFF.



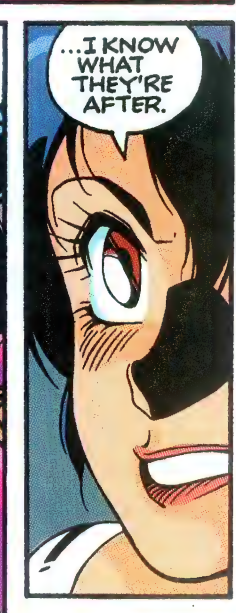
GOOD WORK, NENE.

THESE DECRYPTED FILES MAKE IT CLEAR EXACTLY WHAT THESE MECHS ARE DOING IN MEGATOKYO.


UM, GLAD TO BE OF SERVICE, SYLIA...

...FOR ONCE...

AS I'VE SAID AN OBJECTIVE AS IT MAY BE...



...I KNOW WHAT THEY'RE AFTER.

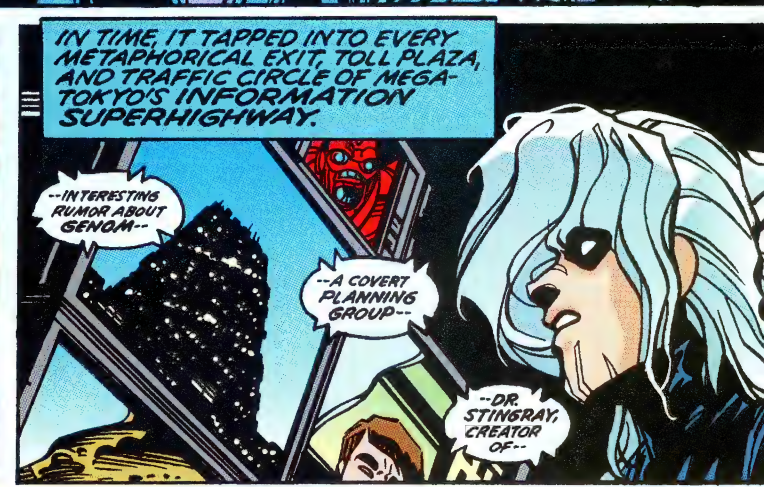


MY MECHANICAL FRIEND, THE SKORPION 19, SPENT THE LAST THREE YEARS IN AN ORGY OF INFORMATION GATHERING.

IT CONDUCTED ENDLESS HOURS OF AUDIO AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE WITH ITS SUB-UNIT MECHS.



IT MONITORED EVERY CONCEIVABLE MEDIA OUTLET, FROM MAIN-STREAM NEWS FEEDS TO ANARCHIST BULLETIN BOARDS.

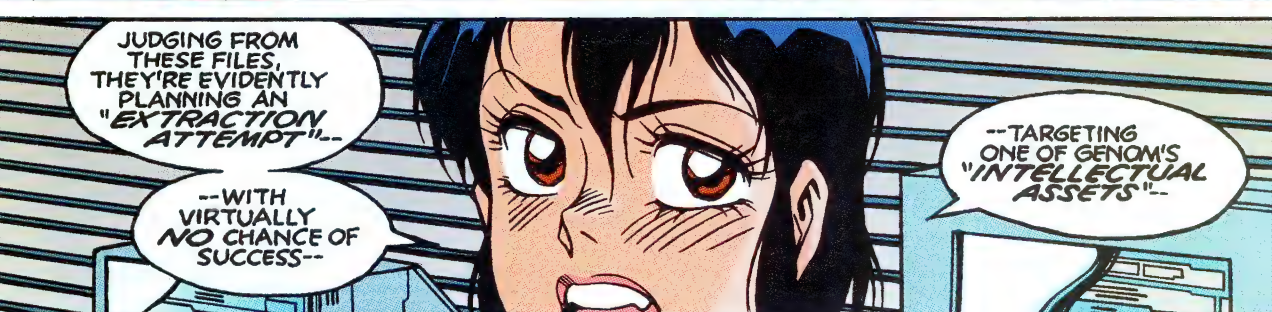


IN TIME, IT TAPPED INTO EVERY METAPHORICAL EXIT, TOLL PLAZA, AND TRAFFIC CIRCLE OF MEGA-TOKYO'S INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY.

--INTERESTING RUMOR ABOUT GENOM--

--A COVERT PLANNING GROUP--


--DR. STINGRAY, CREATOR OF--



JUDGING FROM THESE FILES, THEY'RE EVIDENTLY PLANNING AN "EXTRACTION ATTEMPT"--

--WITH VIRTUALLY NO CHANCE OF SUCCESS--

--TARGETING ONE OF GENOM'S "INTELLECTUAL ASSETS"--

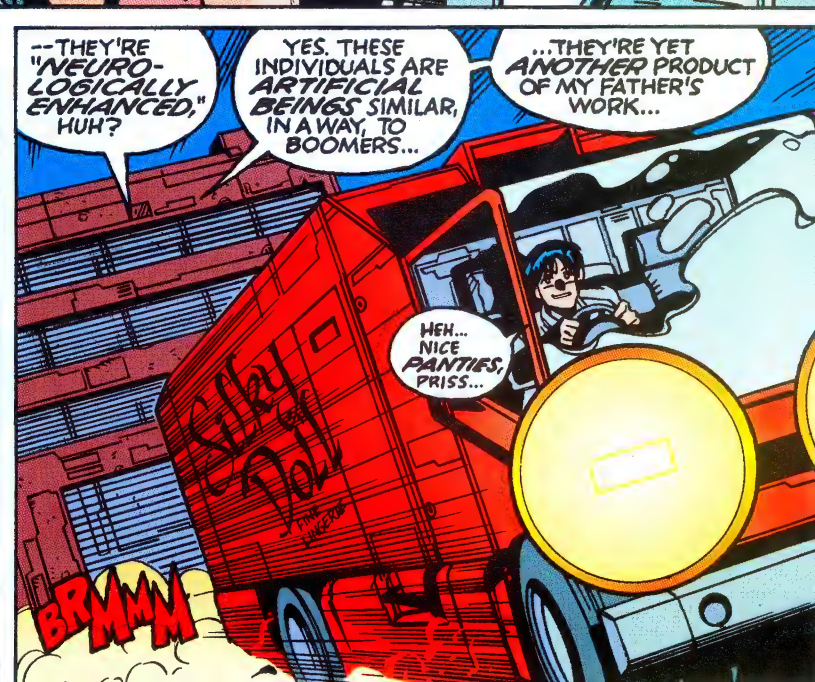


--PENETRATING THOUSANDS OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS, SIFTING THROUGH TERA-BYTES OF ELECTRONIC GARBAGE TO PIECE TOGETHER A WORKABLE MEANS OF ACHIEVING OUR GOAL--

--SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF DR. STINGRAY'S WORK--

--STINGRAY IS SURVIVED BY DAUGHTER SYLIA, TWELVE, AND--

--BOOMER'S FORM OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE--



--THEY'RE "NEURO-LOGICALLY ENHANCED," HUH?

YES, THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE ARTIFICIAL BEINGS SIMILAR, IN A WAY, TO BOOMERS...

...THEY'RE YET ANOTHER PRODUCT OF MY FATHER'S WORK...

HEH... NICE PANTIES, PRISS...

BRMM

--SPLICING IN THE DATA FROM THE LOST MEMORY MODULE, THE SKORPION INFODUMPS TO ME VIA AUDIO AND VIDEO SAMPLES ASSEMBLED DURING ITS YEARS OF RECONNAISSANCE.

THE SAMPLING TECHNIQUE'S SOMEWHAT ANNOYING, BUT YOU CAN GET USED TO IT.

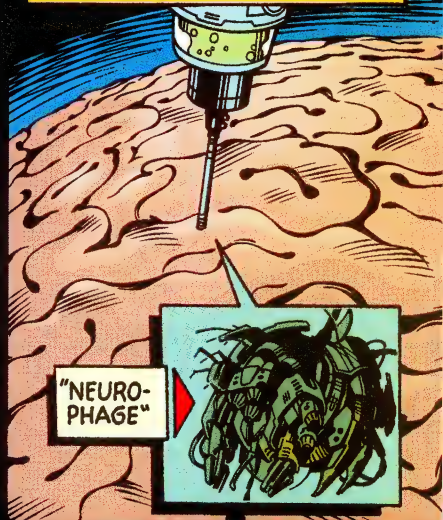
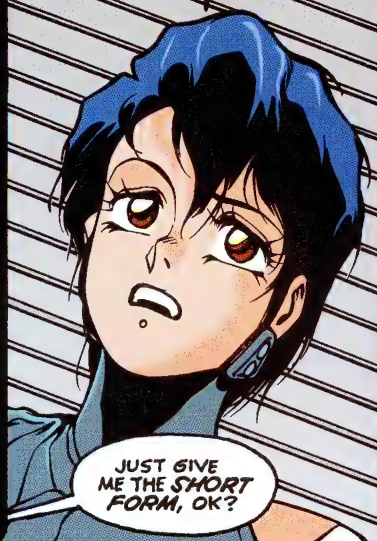
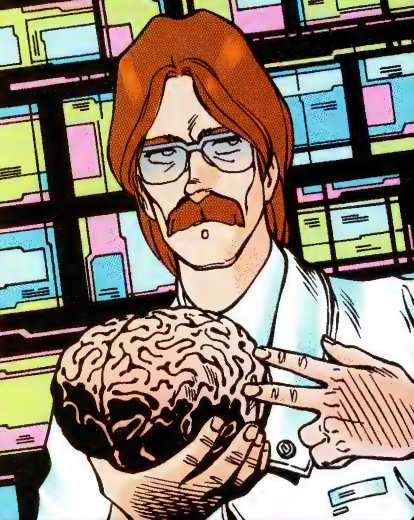
VIDEO SAMPLE

--CRITICAL PART OF STINGRAY'S WORK FOR GENOM WAS HIS REPLICATION OF HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS IN "BOOMER TECHNOLOGY"--

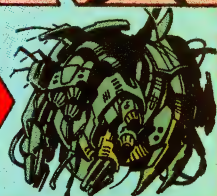
--INSTEAD, MY FATHER TOOK THE ROUTE OF TRYING TO *DIRECTLY* CONVERT HUMAN BRAIN INTO A SOFTWARE ANALOG--

VIDEO SAMPLE

--STINGRAY'S SO-CALLED "NEUROPHAGE," WHICH WAS AN EXPERIMENTAL BIO-COMPUTER-CONTROLLED MOLECULAR MACHINE DESIGNED TO BE INTRODUCED, MILLIONS AT A TIME, INTO A LIVING BRAIN--



"NEURO-PHAGE"



VIDEO SAMPLE

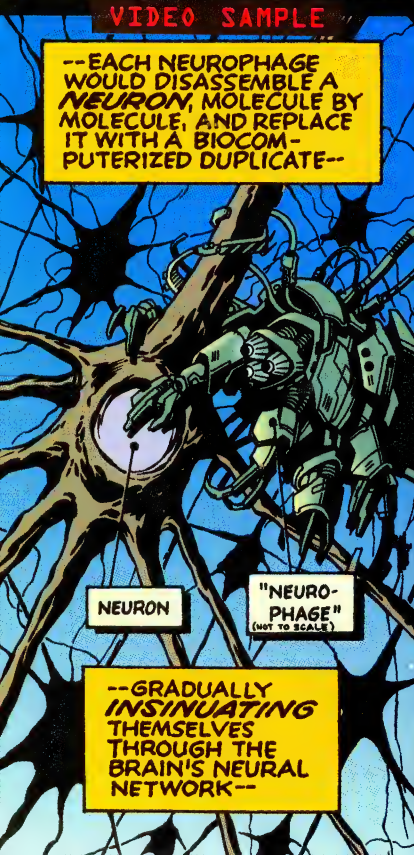
--EACH NEUROPHAGE WOULD DISASSEMBLE A NEURON, MOLECULE BY MOLECULE, AND REPLACE IT WITH A BIOCOMPUTERIZED DUPLICATE--

--WEIRDLY ENOUGH, HEARING DESCRIPTIONS OF TINY MANMADE CRITTERS CHEWING THEIR WAY THROUGH BRAIN TISSUE--

--JUST MAKES ME HUNGRY--

VIDEO SAMPLE

EVENTUALLY, *ALL* TISSUE WOULD BE REPLACED BY A MASS OF NEUROPHAGES THAT WOULD *MIMIC* THE OPERATION OF THE ORIGINAL BRAIN--



NEURON

"NEURO-PHAGE"
(NOT TO SCALE)

--GRADUALLY INSINUATING THEMSELVES THROUGH THE BRAIN'S NEURAL NETWORK--



--REPORTEDLY, STINGRAY WAS ANGERED BY GENOM'S RECKLESS EXPERIMENTATION--

--FAVORED LIMITED TESTING OF NEUROPHAGES ON--



--RETAINING MOST OF THE SUBJECT'S COGNITIVE, BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL TRAITS--

ONCE THE CONVERSION WAS COMPLETE, EACH INDIVIDUAL NEUROPHAGE COULD **DOWNLOAD** ITS PARTICULAR DATA TO **EXTERNAL COUNTER-PARTS**.

THIS WAY, **SEPARATE** MASSES OF MOLECULAR BIOCOMPUTERS COULD BE SET UP AS **"COPIES"** OF THE ORIGINAL BRAIN.

--AFTER FATHER'S DEATH, GENOM **CARRIED THROUGH** ON HIS THEORIES--

--AND CREATED SEVERAL BEINGS WITH GREATLY ENHANCED **COGNITIVE** AND **INTUITIVE** POWERS--

DAMN.

VIDEO SAMPLE

--REPORTEDLY, DR. STINGRAY OBJECTED TO GENOM'S USE OF **SIMPLIFIED**, AND THEREBY **UNSTABLE**, VERSIONS OF HIS WORK IN THE PRODUCTION BOOMERS--

--BUT DOC STINGRAY HAD BOLDER AIMS THAN MERELY **REPLICATING** HUMAN INTELLIGENCE.

NO, HE ACTUALLY WANTED TO DESIGN AN **IMPROVED MODEL**--

--NEUROPHAGES COULD BE FREELY RECONFIGURED TO PERMIT CHANGES TO THE SYNTHESIZED BRAIN--

--HE REASONED THAT "INFINITE FLEXIBILITY" AND "NEW MODES OF THOUGHTS" COULD BE ACHIEVED BY CONTROLLING THE NEUROPHAGES' ARRANGEMENTS--

VIDEO SAMPLE

--HAS GENOM BEEN UTILIZING THE **"NEUROLOGICALLY ENHANCED"** TO DEFINE ITS CORPORATE STRATEGY?

SOURCES CLAIM THAT **MUCH** OF THE MEGA-CORPORATION'S STUNNING WORLDWIDE SUCCESS MAY BE DUE TO THESE ULTRASECRET **"INTELLECTUAL ASSETS"**--

--AND YET, SOMEHOW, I **STILL** DON'T FEEL **APPRECIATED** BY THOSE CRETINS ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD!

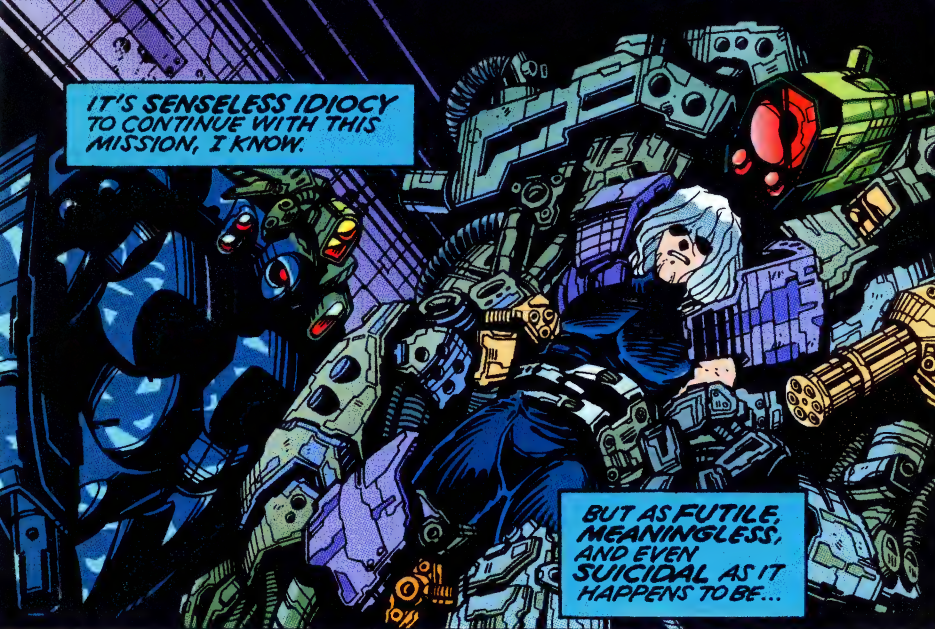
THAT'S IT, **EMBRACE** THE PAIN.

AMAZINGLY, THE SKORPION'S DISCOVERED A WAY TO CAPTURE ONE OF THESE **"POSTHUMAN INTELLECTS"**...

...THOUGH, ALAS, THIS BREAK-THROUGH'S COME TOO LATE TO HELP OUR ORIGINAL EMPLOYERS.

OH, WELL.

VREEE

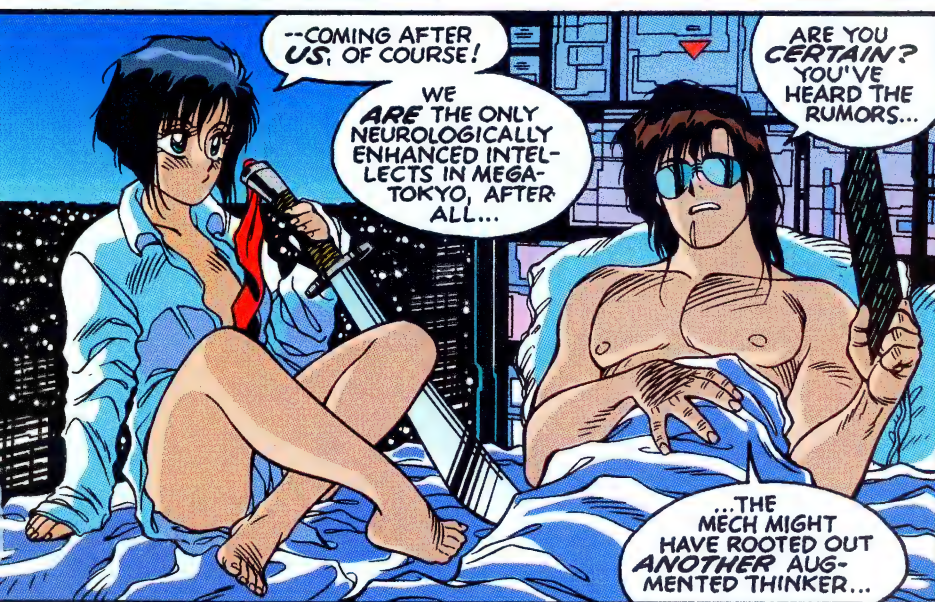


IT'S SENSELESS IDIOCY
TO CONTINUE WITH THIS
MISSION, I KNOW.

BUT AS FUTILE,
MEANINGLESS,
AND EVEN
SUICIDAL AS IT
HAPPENS TO BE...



...THIS IS
MY JOB.

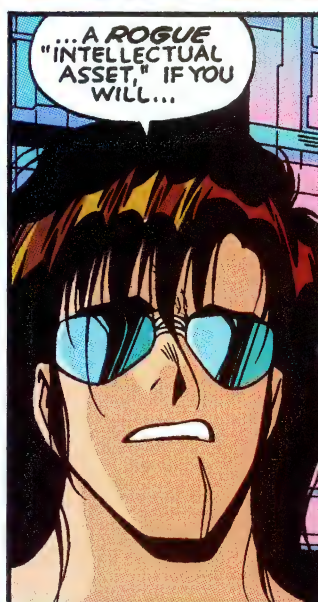


--COMING AFTER
US, OF COURSE!

WE
ARE THE ONLY
NEUROLOGICALLY
ENHANCED INTEL-
LECTS IN MEGA-
TOKYO, AFTER
ALL...

ARE YOU
CERTAIN?
YOU'VE
HEARD THE
RUMORS...

...THE
MECH MIGHT
HAVE ROOTED OUT
ANOTHER AUG-
MENTED THINKER...



...A ROGUE
"INTELLECTUAL
ASSET," IF YOU
WILL...



--WITH AN ATTACK
ON GENOM TOWER
IMMINENT, YOUR
HARDSUIT'S SENSOR
SUITES AND SURVEIL-
LANCE GEAR WILL
BE CRITICAL,
NENE.

AFTER LAST
NIGHT, ARE
YOU FEELING
UP TO
THIS...?

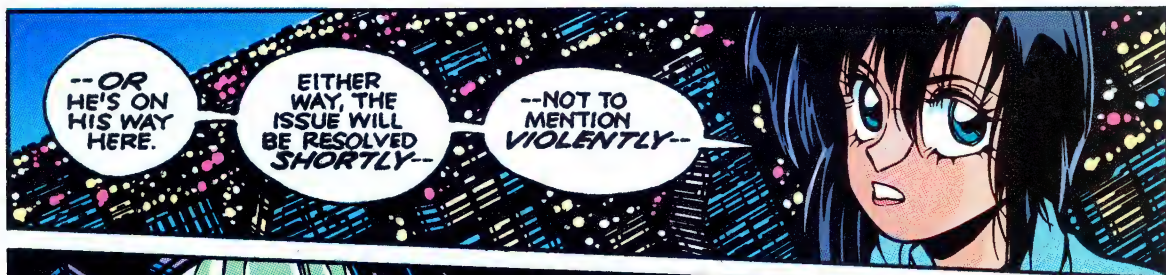
DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
ME,
SYLIA!



I'M READY
FOR
ANYTHING!

EXCEPT
A FIGHT,
MAYBE...

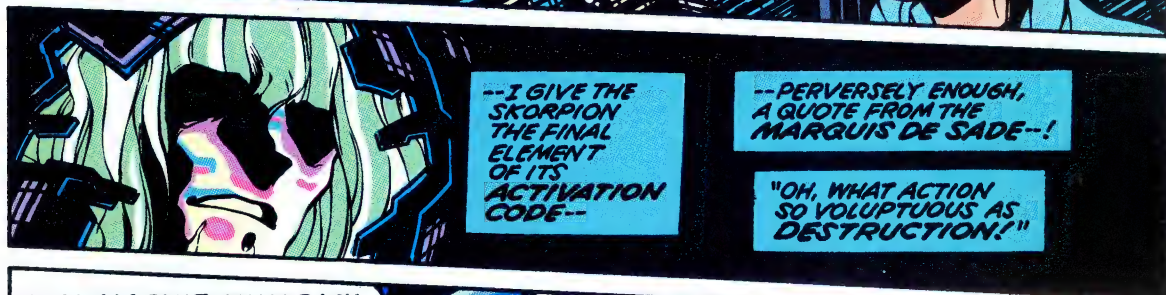
HUSH,
LINNA.



--OR
HE'S ON
HIS WAY
HERE.

EITHER
WAY, THE
ISSUE WILL
BE RESOLVED
SHORTLY--

--NOT TO
MENTION
VIOLENTLY--



--I GIVE THE
SKORPION
THE FINAL
ELEMENT
OF ITS
ACTIVATION
CODE--

--PERVERSELY ENOUGH,
A QUOTE FROM THE
MARQUIS DE SADE--!

"OH, WHAT ACTION
SO VOLUPTUOUS AS
DESTRUCTION!"

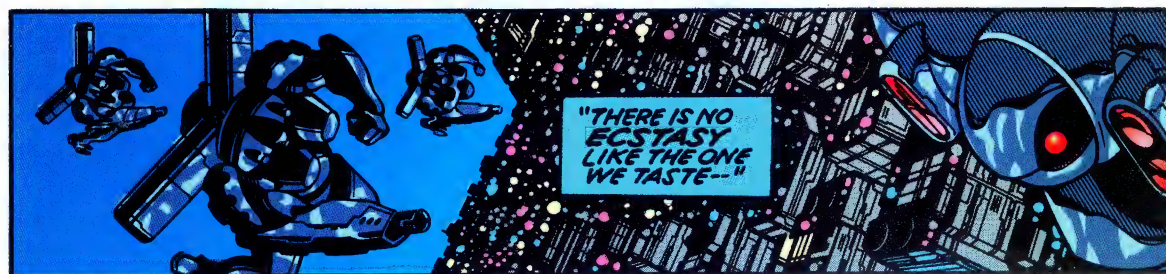


ONCE MACKIE COMES BACK,
WE'LL HEAD TO A MONITORING
POST CLOSE BY GENOM
TOWER--

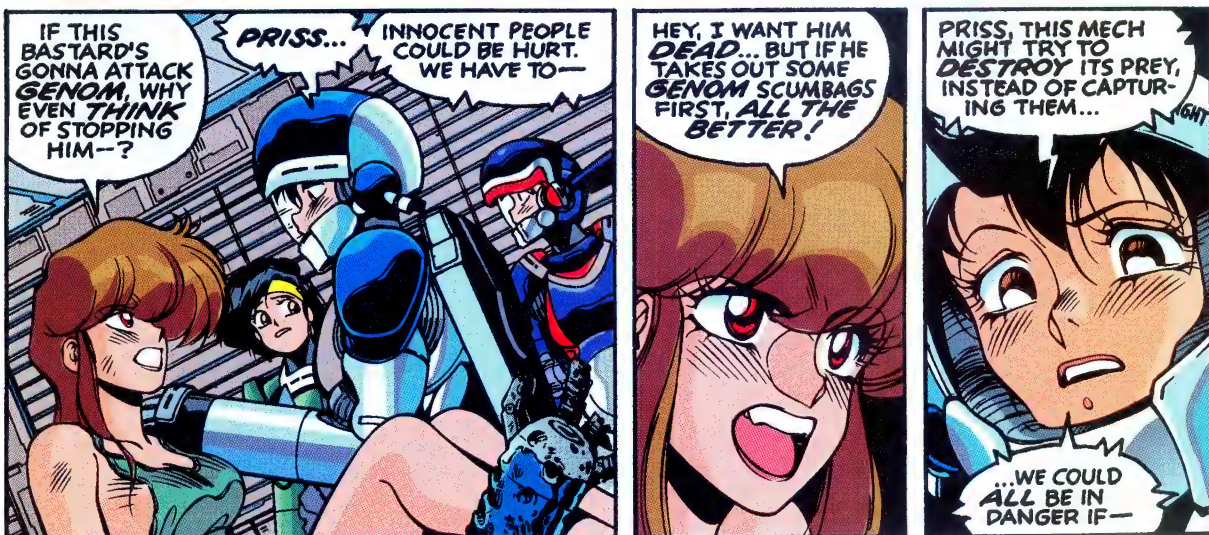
--IN CASE
WE NEED TO
INTERVENE--

WHAT?

ARE
YOU
CRAZY?



"THERE IS NO
ECSTASY
LIKE THE ONE
WE TASTE--"



IF THIS
BASTARD'S
GONNA ATTACK
GENOM, WHY
EVEN THINK
OF STOPPING
HIM--?

PRISS...

INNOCENT PEOPLE
COULD BE HURT.
WE HAVE TO--

HEY, I WANT HIM
DEAD... BUT IF HE
TAKES OUT SOME
GENOM SCUMBAGS
FIRST, ALL THE
BETTER!

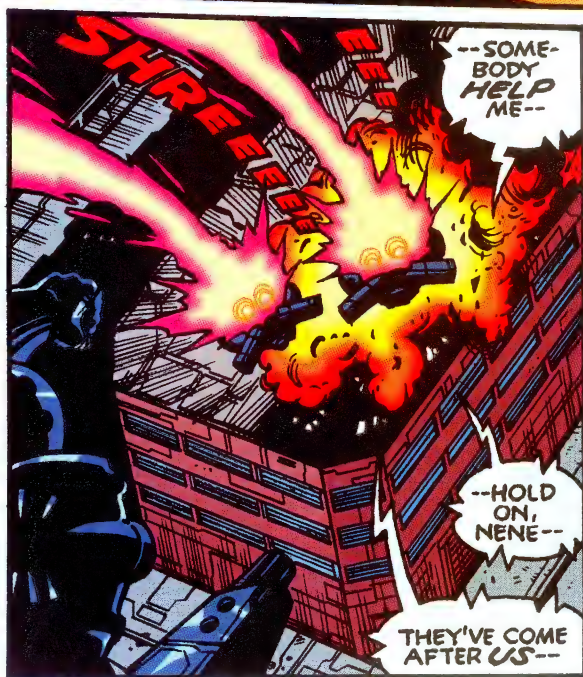
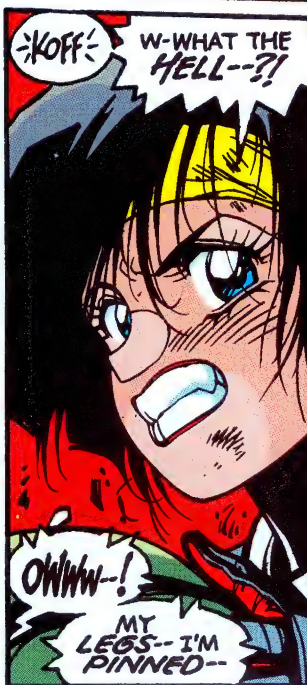
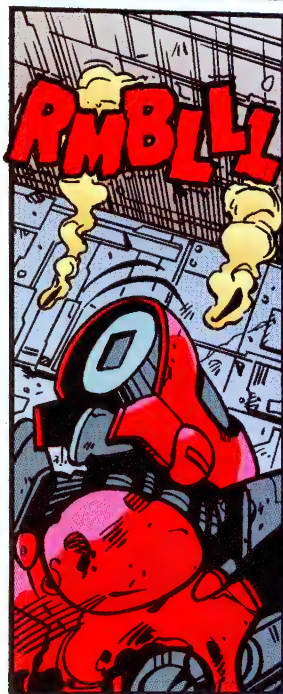
PRISS, THIS MECH
MIGHT TRY TO
DESTROY ITS PREY,
INSTEAD OF CAPTUR-
ING THEM...

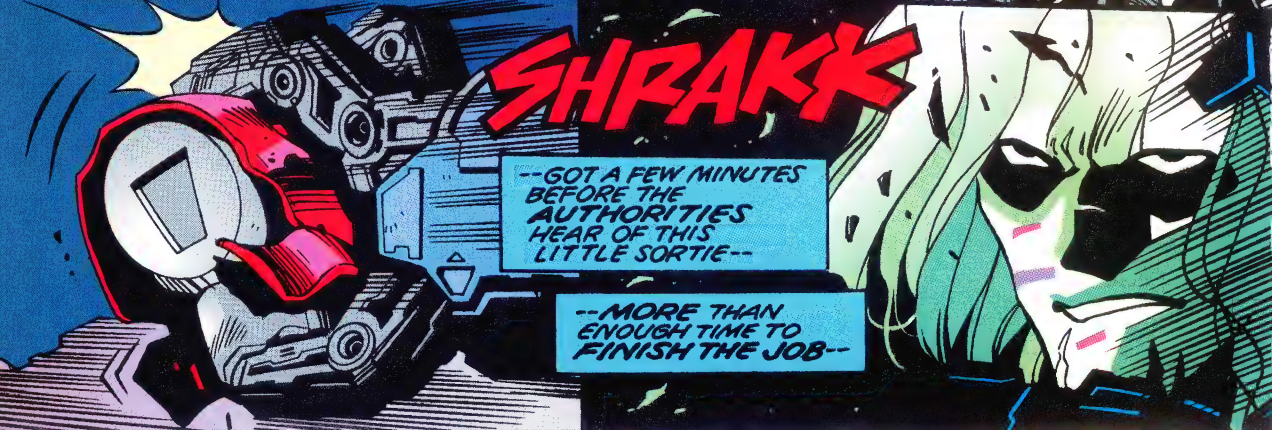
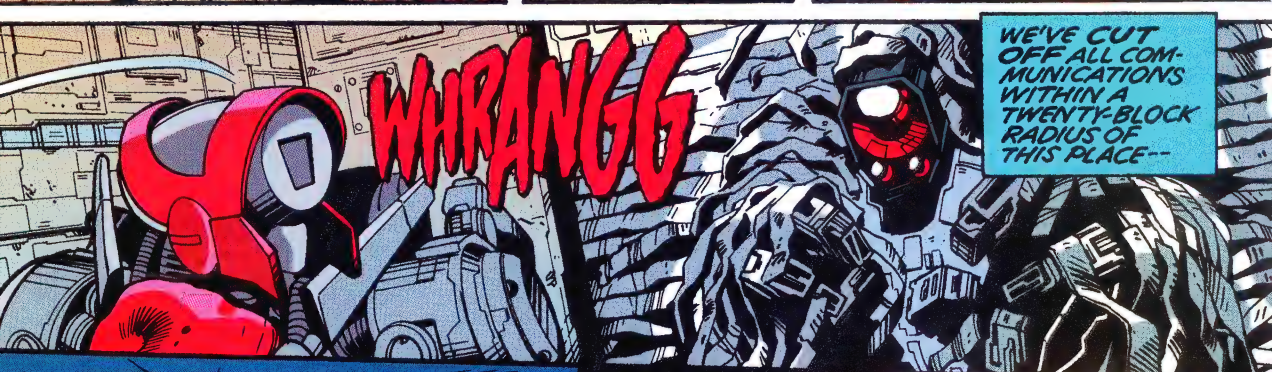
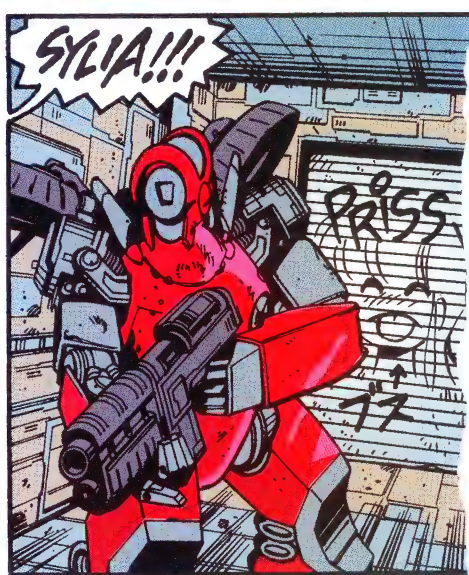
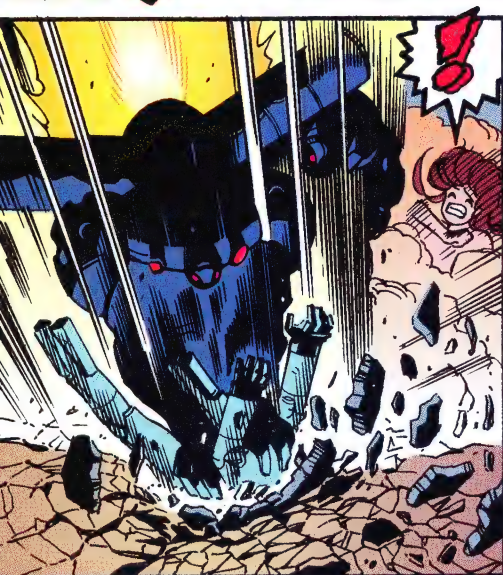
...WE COULD
ALL BE IN
DANGER IF--

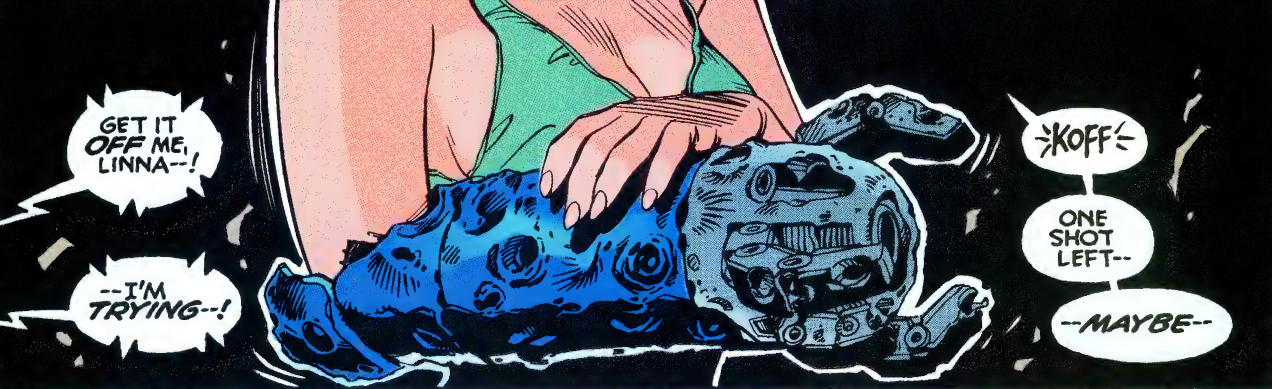
"WHEN
WE GIVE
OURSELVES
OVER
TO THIS
DIVINE
INFAMY!"

CHOOM
CHOOM

WHKROOM







GET IT
OFF ME,
LINNA--!

--I'M
TRYING--!

=KOFF=

ONE
SHOT
LEFT--

--MAYBE--

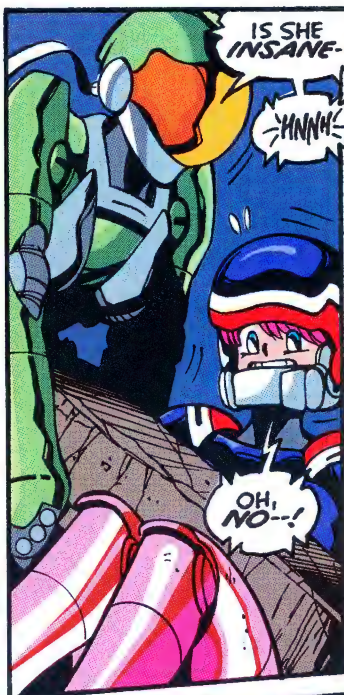


PRISS!

WHAT ARE YOU
DOING--
?!!

--GOTTA
MAKE IT
COUNT--!

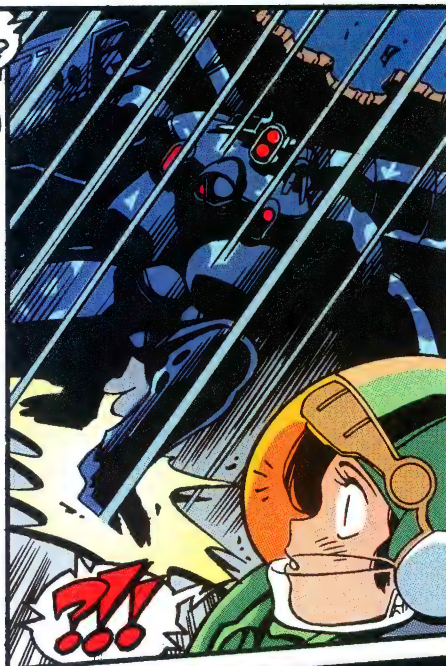
LINNA...!



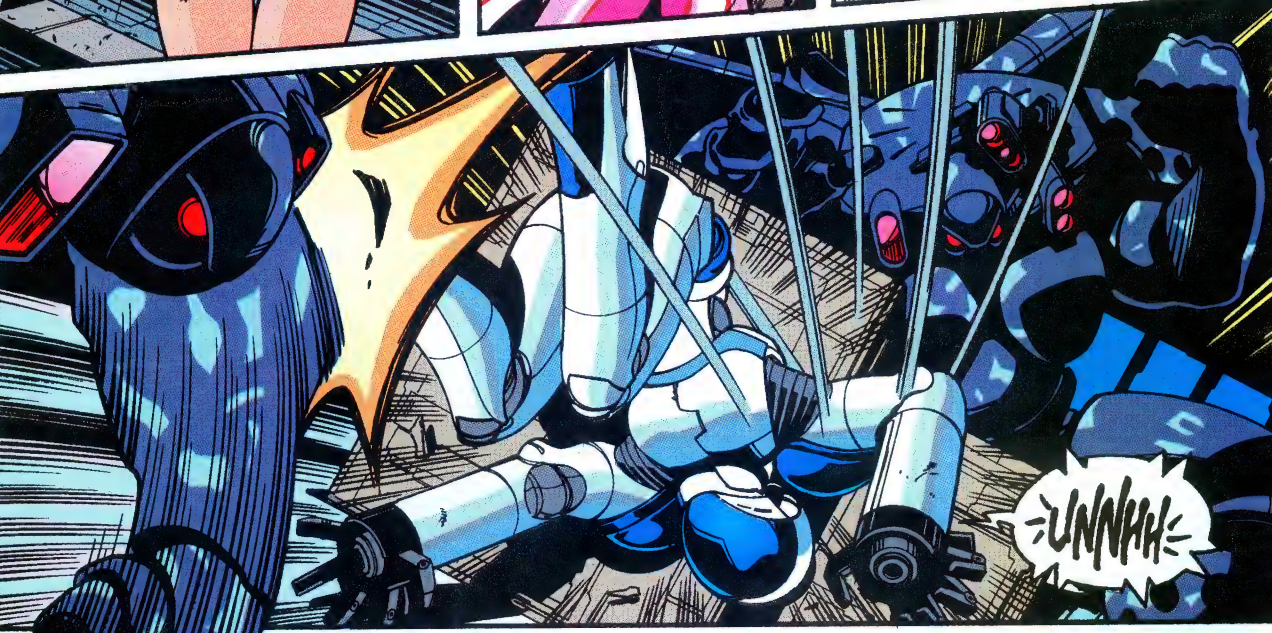
IS SHE
INSANE--?

=NNNN=

OH,
NO--!

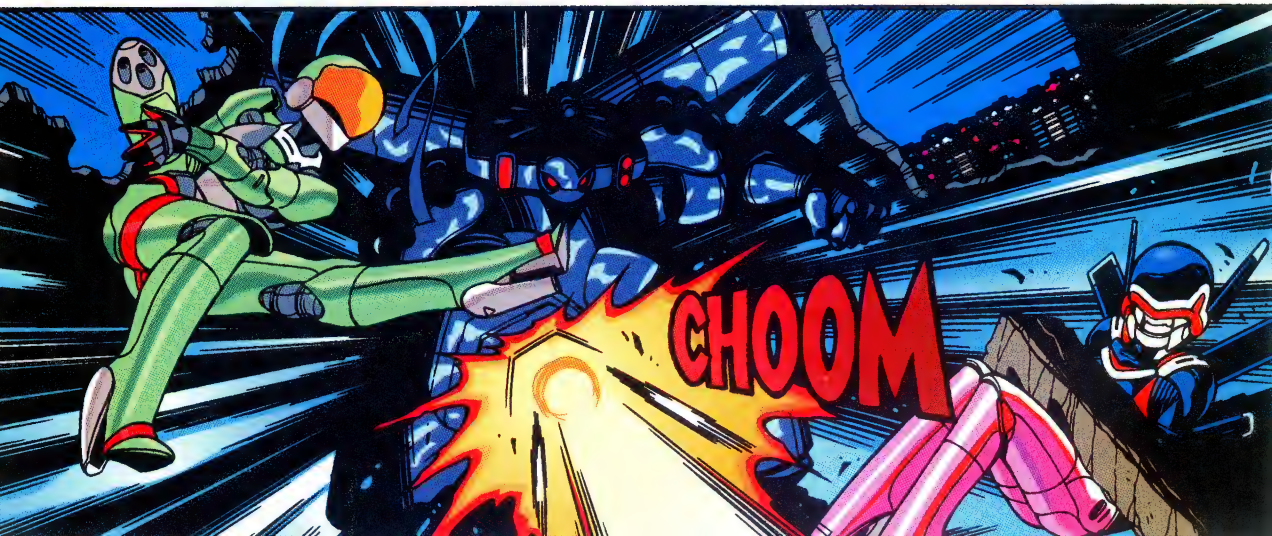
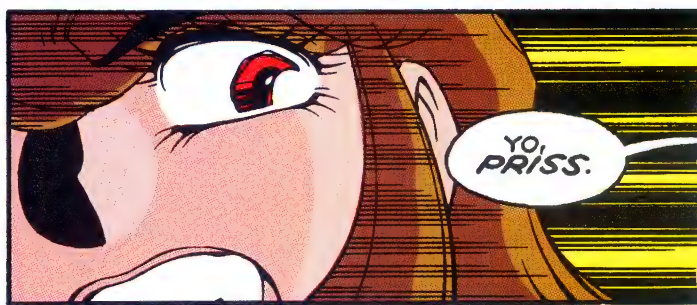
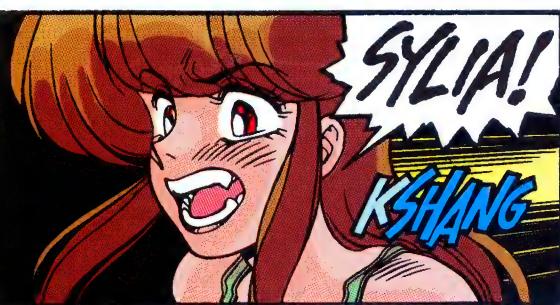
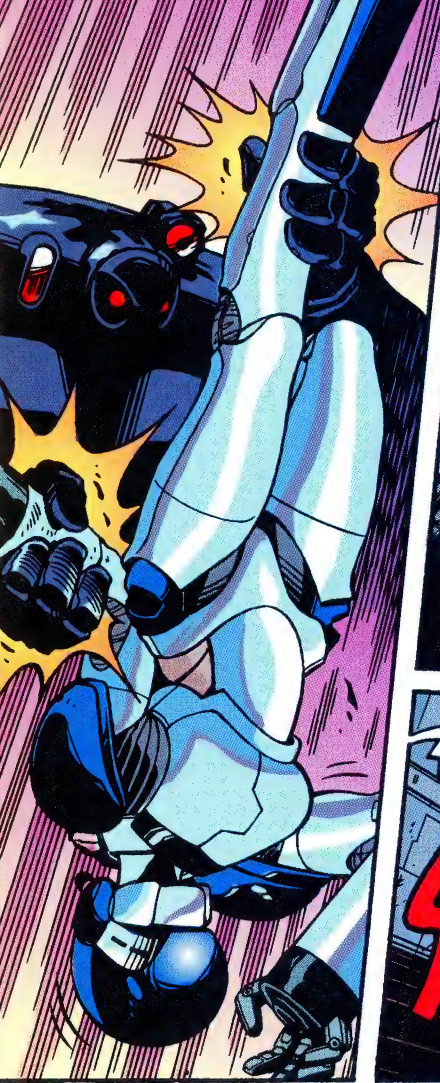


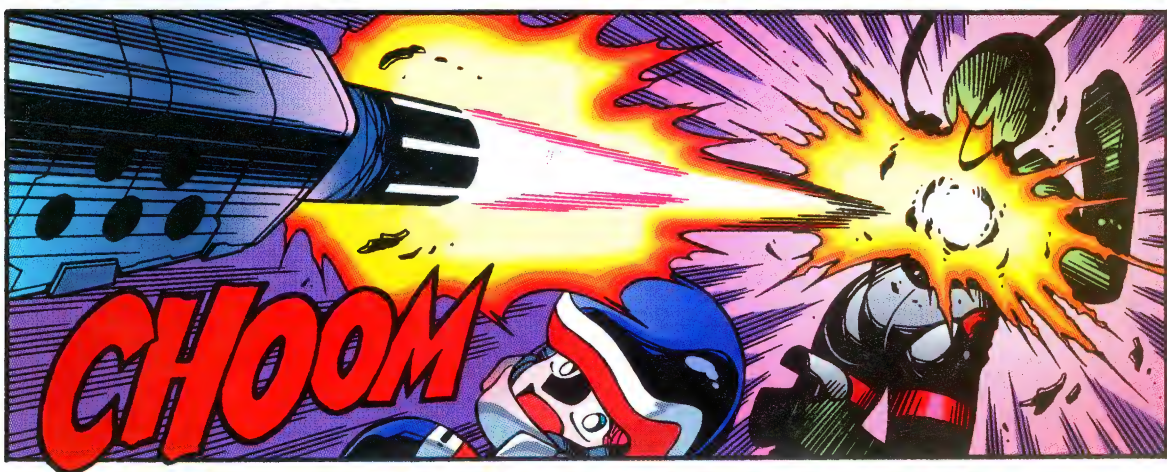
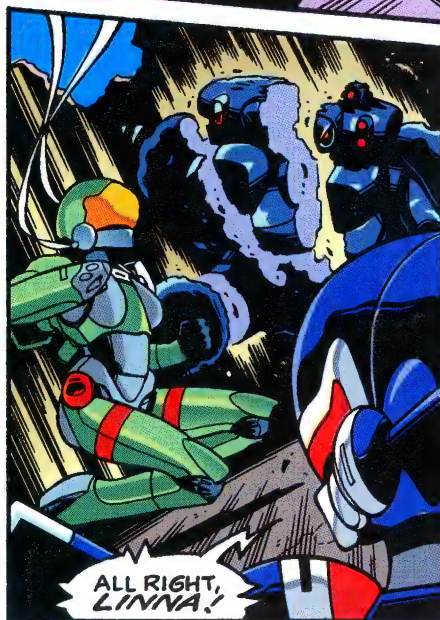
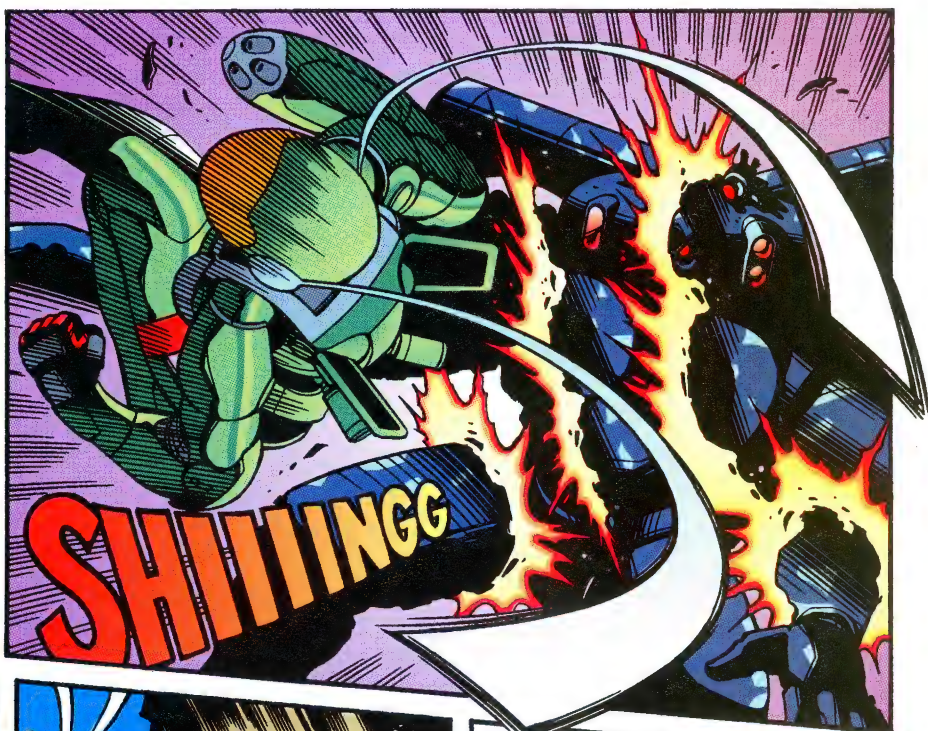
!!!

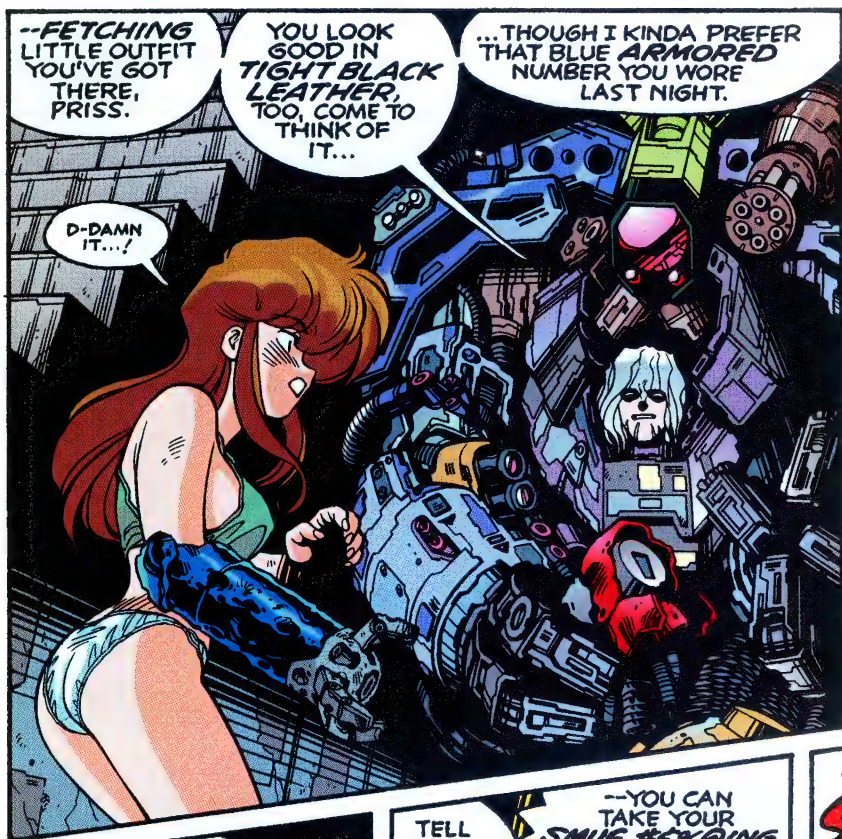


=UNNNH=









--FETCHING
LITTLE OUTFIT
YOU'VE GOT
THERE,
PRISS.

YOU LOOK
GOOD IN
**TIGHT BLACK
LEATHER**,
TOO, COME TO
THINK OF
IT...

...THOUGH I KINDA PREFER
THAT **BLUE ARMORED**
NUMBER YOU WORE
LAST NIGHT.

D-DAMN
IT...!

GOT THE INFODUMP ON
THIS "**KNIGHT
SABERS**" THING
YOU'RE INTO...

...PRETTY
SILLY STUFF,
ISN'T IT?



YOU'D
BEST LEAVE THE
SERIOUS WORK
FOR US **ADULTS**,
OKAY?

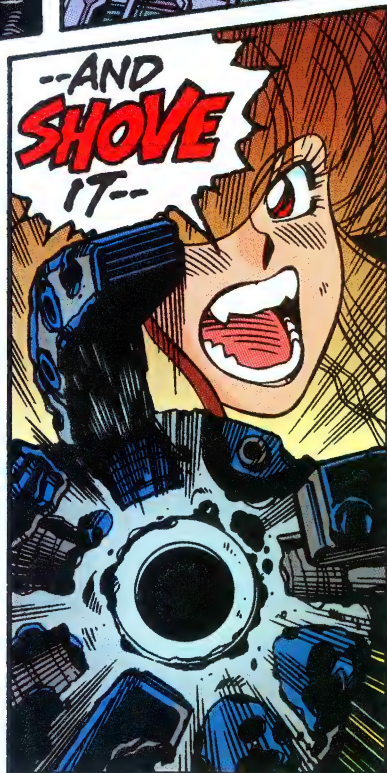
YOU
COULD GET
HURT!

HUNH--!



TELL
YOU
WHAT,
DICK-
WEED--

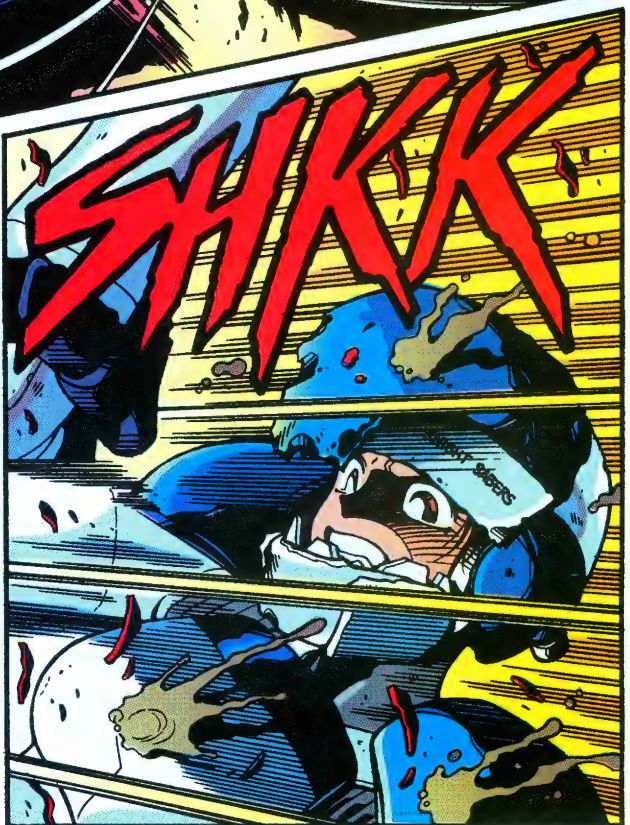
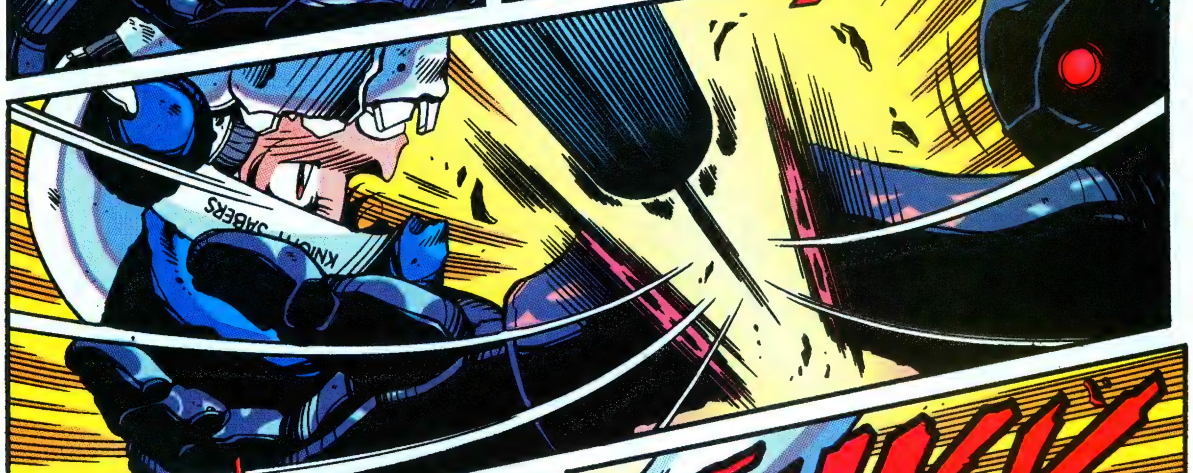
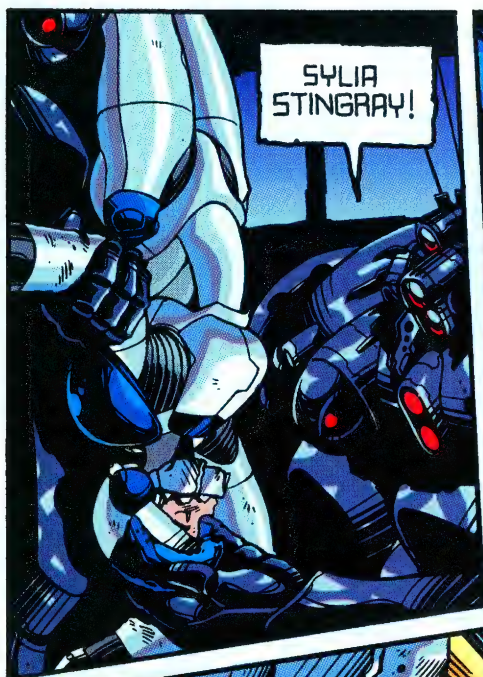
--YOU CAN
TAKE YOUR
**SMUG #5XIDING
CONDESCEN-
SION--**



--AND
**SHOVE
IT--**



**SYLIA
STINGRAY?**





--M-MECH'S
GOTTA BE RUNNING
THOSE BOOMERS
BY REMOTE
LINK--!

SHOULD
BE ABLE TO
JAM THE
SIGNAL--



--OR
OVERRIDE
IT--

--B-BUT
THE SIGNAL'S
FREQUENCY-
HOPPING--!



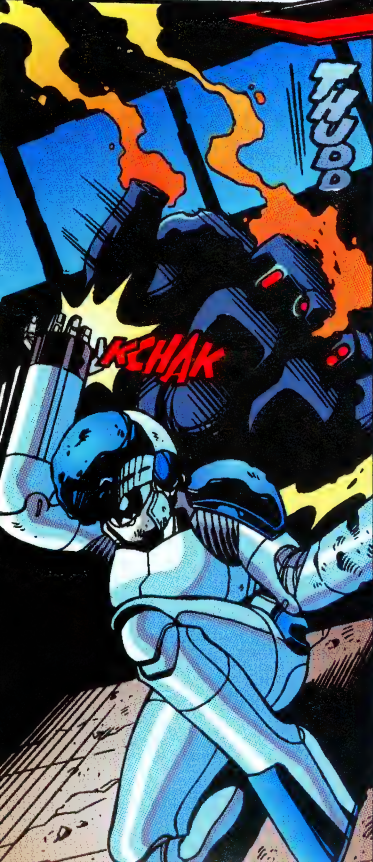
N-NO--
PLEASE--

--DON'T--

--DON'T--

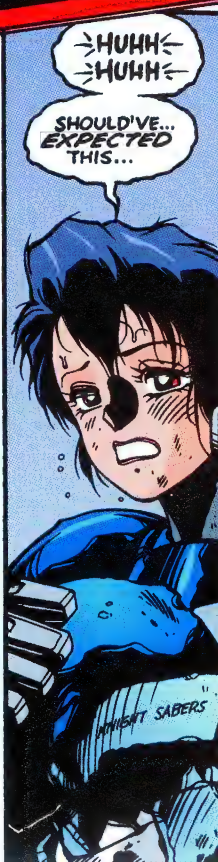


SHRAKK



REHAK

TUDD

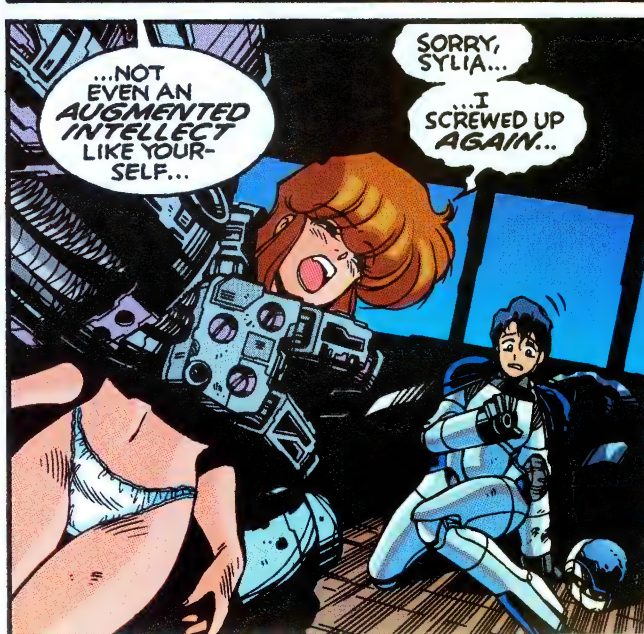


>HUHH<
>HUHH<

SHOULD'VE...
EXPECTED
THIS...



HEY,
NOBODY'S
PERFECT,
SYLIA...



...NOT
EVEN AN
AUGMENTED
INTELLECT
LIKE YOUR-
SELF...

SORRY,
SYLIA...

...I
SCREWED UP
AGAIN...



DIDN'T HAVE TO
GO TO GENOM TOWER
TO FIND ONE OF THE
**NEUROLOGICALLY
ENHANCED**,
AFTER ALL...

...JUST
HAD TO LOOK
FOR YOU...!



DADDY
JUST COULDN'T
**STOP
HIMSELF**,
COULD HE?

STINGRAY
HAD TO GIVE
HIS **LITTLE
GIRL** SOME
VERSION OF HIS
**NEUROPHAGE
TREATMENT**...



...NICE GUY,
EXPERIMENTING
ON HIS OWN
CHILDREN...!

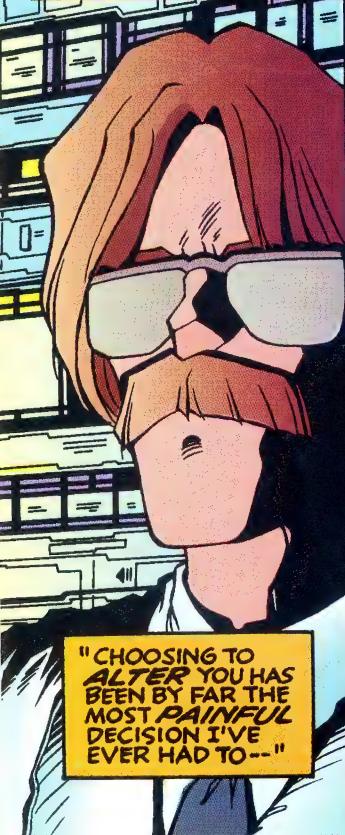
WHY, I
EVEN READ
ALL ABOUT
IT IN YOUR
NOT-SO-PRIVATE
RECORDS,
SYLIA...



VIDEO SAMPLE

"...TO AID YOU
IN THIS..."

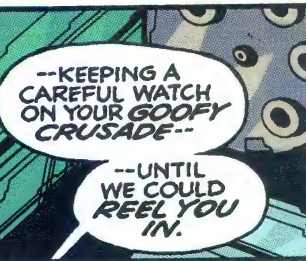
"I HAVE GIVEN YOU
AND YOUR BROTHER
CERTAIN... **GIFTS**,
YOU MIGHT SAY."



"CHOOSING TO
ALTER YOU HAS
BEEN BY FAR THE
MOST **PAINFUL**
DECISION I'VE
EVER HAD TO--"



--SKORPION'S
BEEN
TRACKING
YOU FOR
YEARS--



--KEEPING A
CAREFUL WATCH
ON YOUR **GOOFY
CRUSADE**--

--UNTIL
WE COULD
**REEL YOU
IN**.



LISTEN, YOU
MERCENARY
BASTARD--

--MY
"CRUSADE"
IS ALL THAT'S
STOPPING GENOM
FROM--

YEAH,
RIGHT.



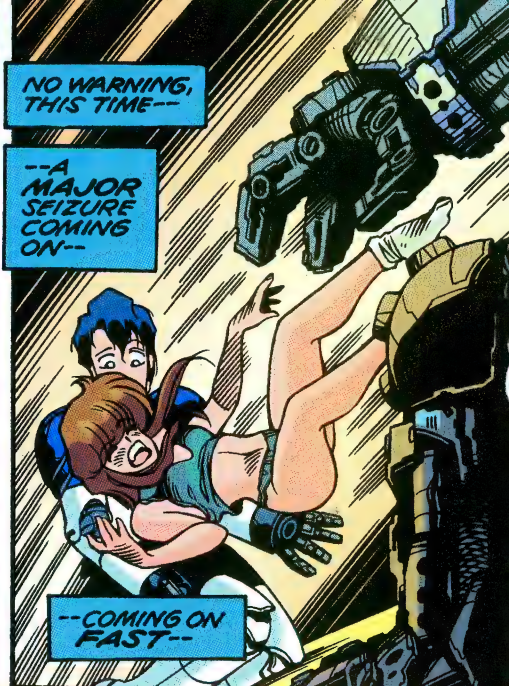
I'M SURE THAT THE
VERY **THOUGHT**
OF A COUPLE OF CUTE
GIRLS PRANCING
AROUND IN **HIGH-
HEELED ARMOR**
IS GONNA PUT
THE **FEAR OF
GOD**--



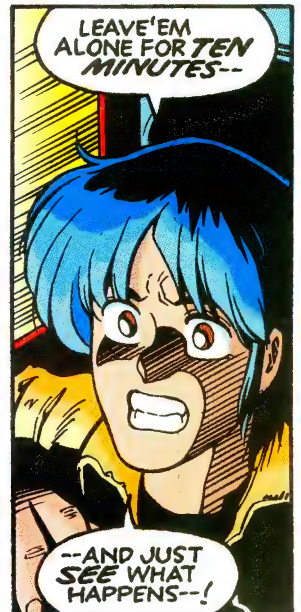
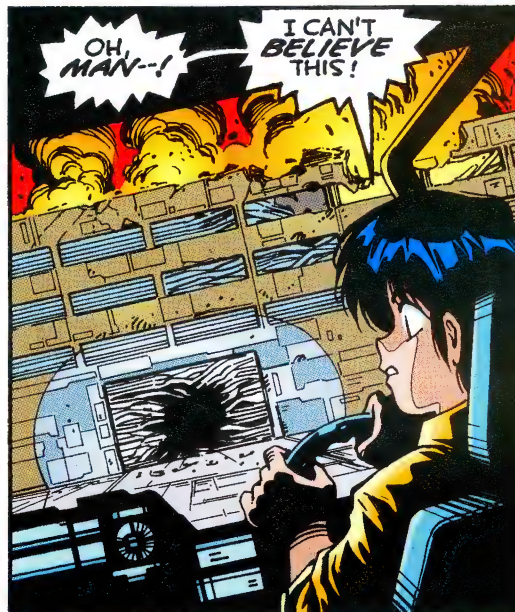
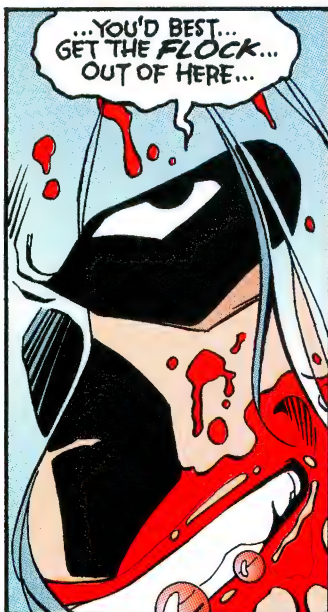
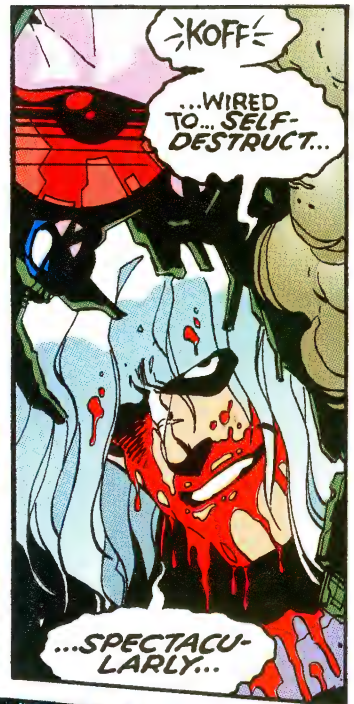
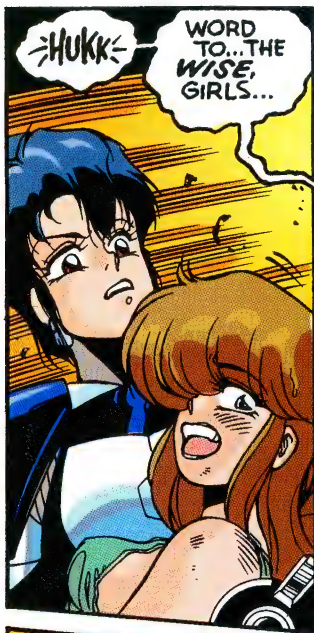
--INTO THE MOST
POWERFUL COM-
MERCIAL ENTITY
IN **HUMAN
HISTORY**--!

D-
DAMN
IT--!

YOU
SAID YOU
**HATED
GENOM!**









DAMN... GETTING
DISEMBOWELED BY
AN ARMOR-PIERCING
CANNON ROUND--

--CUT THAT
SEIZURE
RIGHT OFF--

--SHOULD LET
MY NEURO-
LOGIST KNOW
ABOUT THIS
ANTISEIZURE
TREATMENT--



--WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOU
GUYS--?!

...DON'T
ASK...

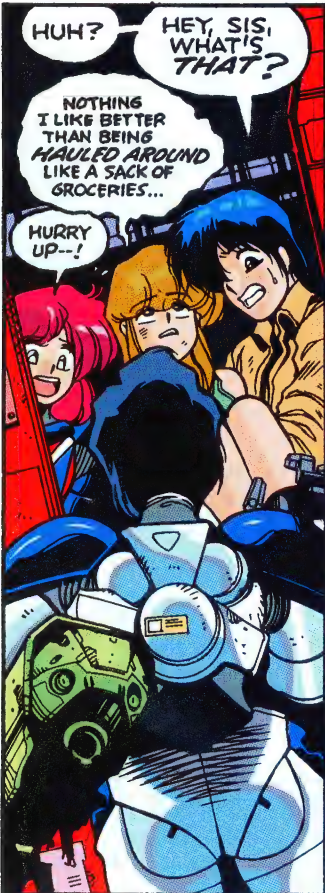
MACKIE!
I SAVED
THE DAY!

WE'RE
GETTING
OUT OF
HERE,
NOW--



--DEATH--

--IT'S THE ONE
SURE CURE
FOR WHAT
AILS YOU--

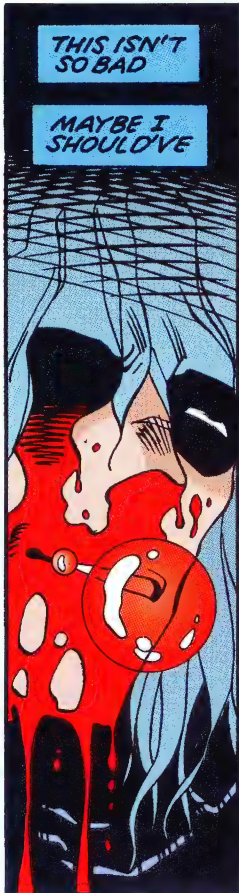


HUH?

HEY, SIS,
WHAT'S
THAT?

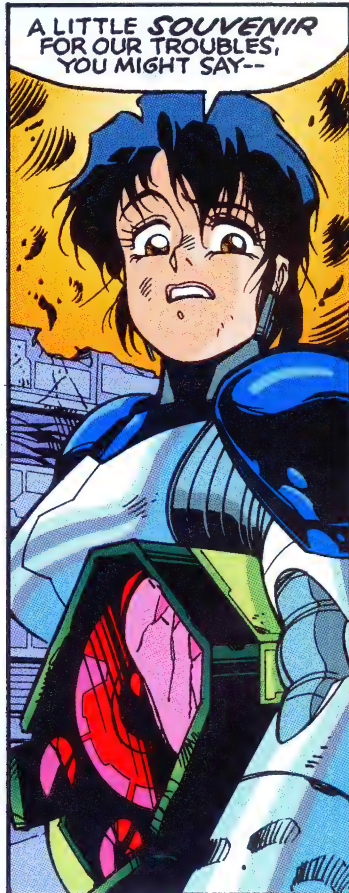
NOTHING
I LIKE BETTER
THAN BEING
HAULED AROUND
LIKE A SACK OF
GROCERIES...

HURRY
UP--!

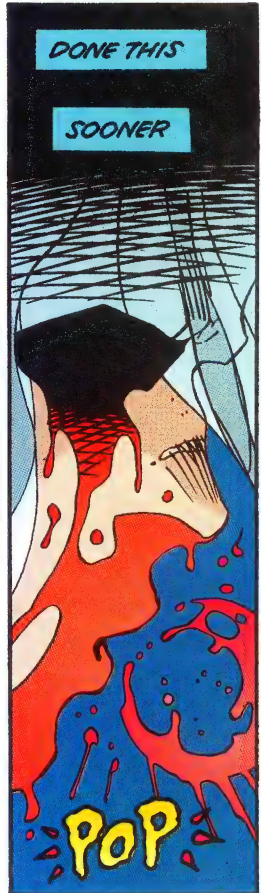


THIS ISN'T
SO BAD

MAYBE I
SHOULD'VE



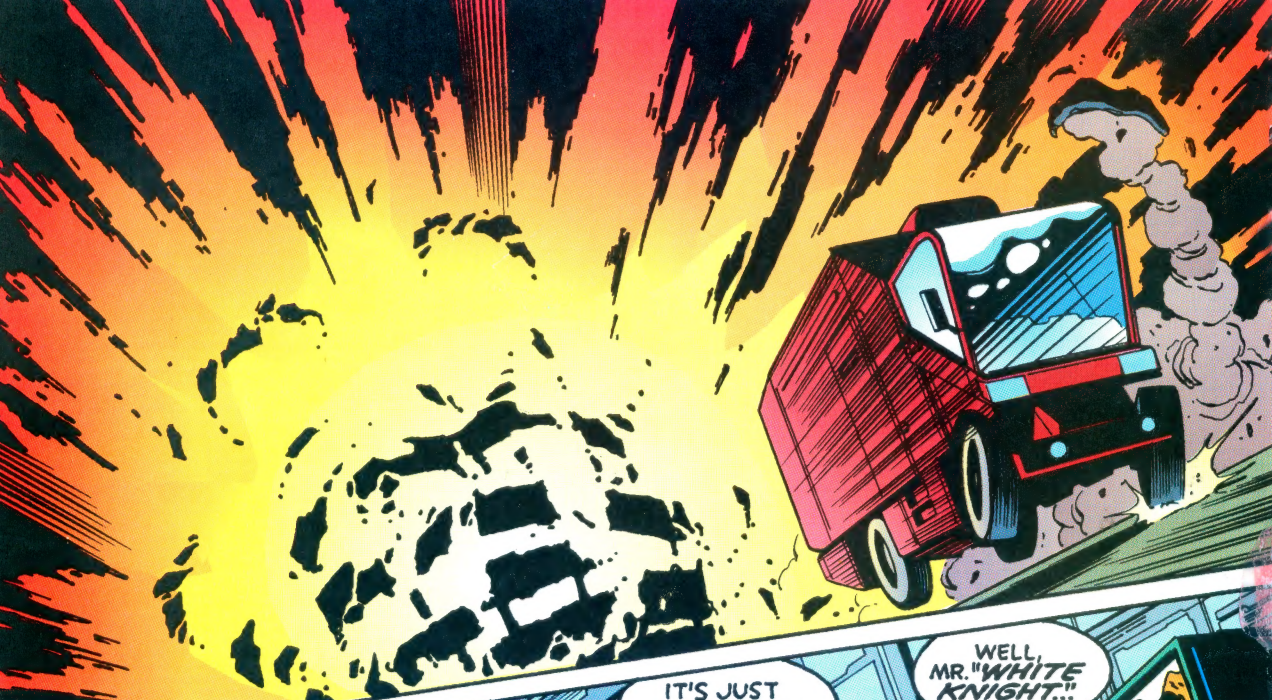
A LITTLE *SOUVENIR*
FOR OUR TROUBLES,
YOU MIGHT SAY--



DONE THIS

SOONER

POP



JEEZ,
SYLIA...

...I'M SORRY
ABOUT YOUR, UM,
BUILDING...!

IT'S JUST
ONE OF MY
PROPERTIES...

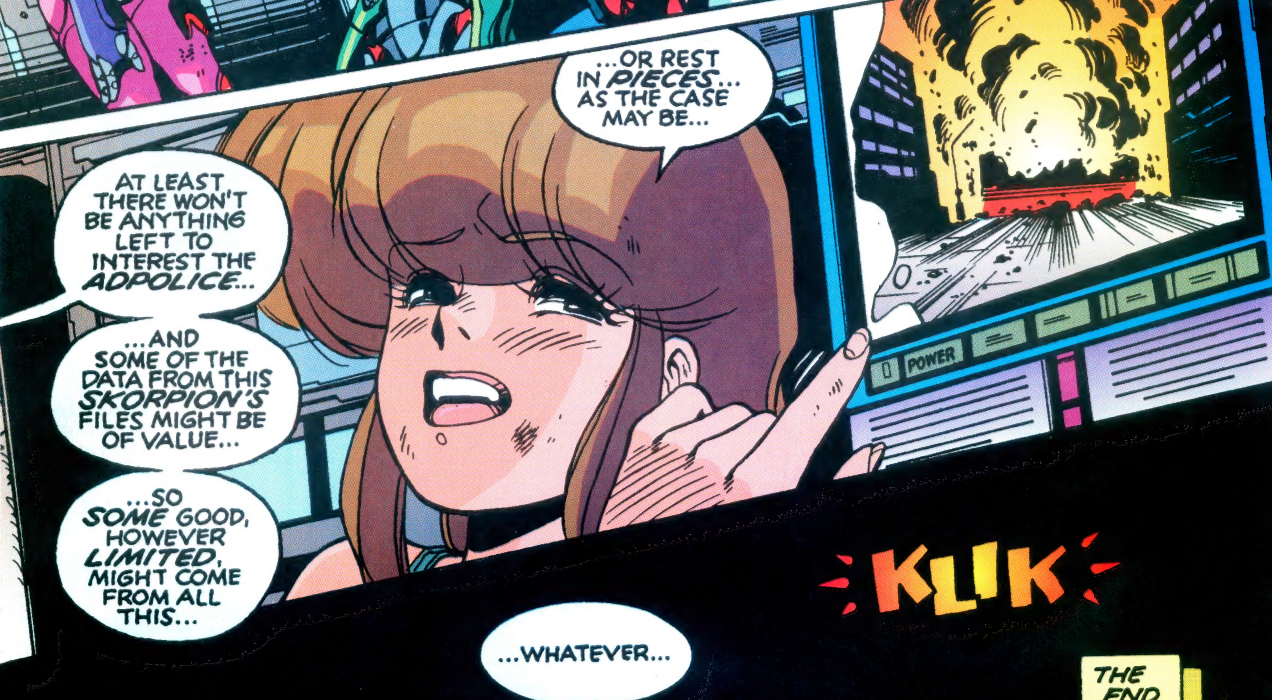
WELL,
MR. **"WHITE
KNIGHT..."**

...I'LL
SURVIVE
THE
LOSS.

YEAH...

...SORRY
'BOUT
THAT...

...REST
IN
PEACE...



...OR REST
IN **PIECES...**
AS THE CASE
MAY BE...

AT LEAST
THERE WON'T
BE ANYTHING
LEFT TO
INTEREST THE
ADPOLICE...

...AND
SOME OF THE
DATA FROM THIS
SKORPION'S
FILES MIGHT BE
OF VALUE...

...SO
SOME GOOD,
HOWEVER
LIMITED,
MIGHT COME
FROM ALL
THIS...

...WHATEVER...

KLIK

**THE
END**

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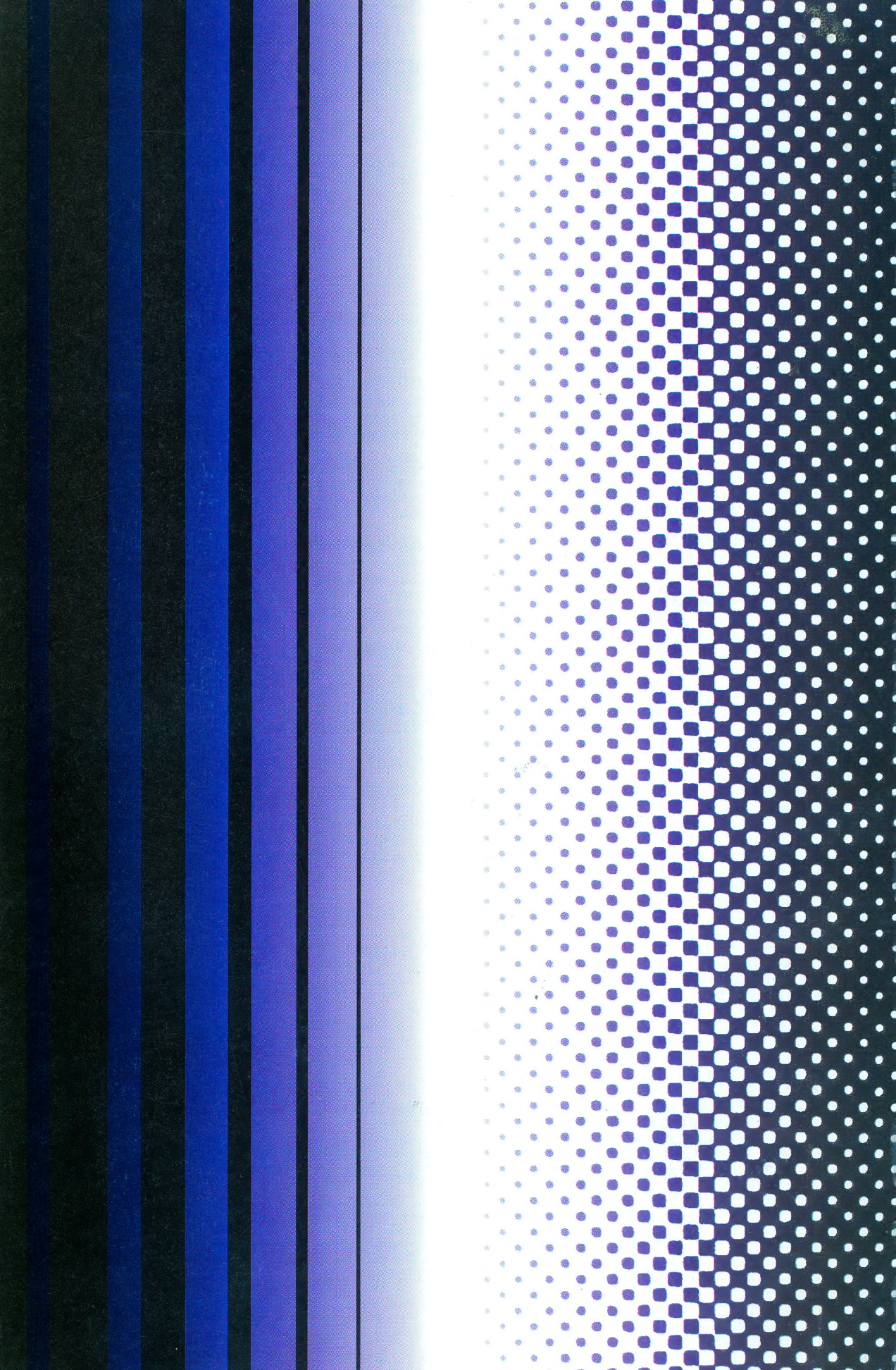
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